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INSIDE  
EIGHT PAGES  
FROM SUNDAY'S  
**The New York Times**  
WEEKLY REVIEW

## Soldier stabbed in Afula, assailant caught

DAVID RUDGE  
and news agencies

A TERRORIST stabbed a soldier in the back in Afula yesterday evening, and was then caught by an off-duty policeman.

The soldier, Elishu Azulai, of Afula, was taken in the car of a passerby to Ha'emek Hospital. He was lightly to moderately wounded.

Police said a 17-year-old from Yamoun, near Jenin, approached Azulai from behind and stabbed him in the back. The terrorist then tried to flee.

Off-duty policeman Meir Cohen happened to be in the area with his family and saw the attack. He chased the attacker, pounced on him, and pinned him to the ground. He also managed to remove the knife from the suspect's hand.

The suspect was taken to the nearby police station for questioning, and admitted stabbing the soldier. In his initial statement, he claimed he had argued with his father and had carried out the attack so he would be put in jail.

He is to be brought before the Tiberias Magistrate's Court for a remand hearing today.

In another incident yesterday, a Palestinian teenager was shot in the back near Nablus under unclear circumstances.

Yasser Snobar, 16, was in Rafidiyah Hospital in Nablus in fair condition with a gunshot wound in his back and stomach, a hospital worker said.

Palestinian and Israeli police said they were investigating the reports.

"According to the preliminary report that we have, a settler opened fire on a group of students and one student was injured," said Palestinian Police Col. Fahed Biyad.

The army first said that an Israeli driver had opened fire, wounding some students, after stones were thrown at his car, but then retracted its statement.

The Prime Minister's Office also said there was no basis to the rumor that a settler had fired at students.

Herb Keimon adds:

A guard at a Jewish-run quarry near Tarkumia in the Hebron Hills was lightly injured yesterday when two Palestinian assailants tried to take his gun, settlement officials said.



Hundreds of Palestinians yesterday carry the bodies of two Islamic Jihad members killed by PA policemen on Saturday. The mourners called for revenge against Israel and PA Chairman Yasser Arafat. Story, Page 2.

## Christopher arrives amid fading peace prospects

US doubtful Assad will agree to photo-opportunity with Peres

DAVID MAKOVSKY

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived here last night in yet another attempt to advance peace with Syria, though chances for a breakthrough are fading given the prospects of early elections here, diplomatic sources said.

Barring an unforeseen development from Damascus this week that may give fresh impetus to the talks, there are indications that Christopher realizes the Syrian-Israeli talks will be on a low burner until after the elections are over, diplomatic sources in Jerusalem said.

"It is fair to say that if there are early elections in Israel, peace talks will continue, but the tough decisions on issues such as security arrangements will only be made after the elections are over," an American diplomatic source said.

Both Israel and Syria seem to prefer that talks continue so as to preserve a modicum of momentum.

"We still have no signs that the Syrians are willing to compromise on a few issues that are critical to us and if they don't show any compromise there won't be any peace," said

Minister Yossi Beilin.

"There is room for working groups to start more extensive talks on all issues on the agenda, but I don't think there is reason to expect a breakthrough," Beilin told Israel Radio.

While the US may not be pleased by the prospect of early elections, Christopher is not seeking to press Prime Minister Shimon Peres on the matter. In a phone call between the two last week, sources said, Christopher said the calling of early elections is an internal Israeli affair.

Yet, it is important to Christopher that he not be blamed by Israeli officials for failing to deliver an early breakthrough this week, and therefore be perceived as the immediate trigger for early elections, the American diplomatic source said. Christopher is slated to leave the region on Thursday, and Peres said he would make his announcement about early elections by next week.

State-run Radio Damascus yesterday expressed disappointment with the progress in Maryland. Syrian radio attacked Foreign Minister Ehud Barak as being uninterested in doing what is needed for peace. Barak said recently that he would not give a drop of the water on the Golan to Syria.

American diplomatic sources were doubtful that Assad would agree to a "photo-op" with Peres before the elections, which might bolster Peres domestically. They said Assad will continue to link any meeting with Peres to a prior commitment to fully withdraw from the Golan.

Before meeting Peres this afternoon, Christopher will participate in a Yad Vashem ceremony that commemorates an American Righteous Among the Nations, Darian Fry. Christopher will also meet separately today with President Ezer Weizman, Foreign Minister Ehud Barak, and Likud Chairman Binyamin Netanyahu.

The secretary of state leaves for Damascus tomorrow morning and is expected back the next day.

## The new American gamble

COMMENT  
DAVID MAKOVSKY

SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher now seems to be betting that early elections will not mean that after 17 trips to the Middle East, he is left holding the bag on peace talks with Syria.

It is now expected that Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who holds a 16 point lead over Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu, will emerge strengthened from the elections and still have time to clinch a deal with Syria before the US elections in November.

But even Minister Yossi Beilin is not sure that Israel can meet that timetable - assuming Peres wins the election.

Beilin, who opposes early elections because of the deleterious effect they could have on the negotiations, has said that if early elections are held, it could take a year from the time talks are resumed to arrive at a deal.

This could be too late for Christopher, who has let it be known that he will retire regard-

less of whether President Bill Clinton is victorious.

However disappointed Christopher may be, there is no indication that he pressed Peres hard to change his mind, perhaps by reminding him of his oft-quoted remark that it is "more important to win the peace than to win elections."

Israeli leaders are now telling Christopher the opposite: Without an early election win, peace and Peres's political future would be at risk. Brokering a Golan deal could at best be marginally helpful to Clinton in November, but with terms of a deal uncertain, Peres seems to believe that such an accord could be deadly to his own political prospects.

Peres is seeking to defuse this line of Likud attack by declaring he will hold a referendum on a Golan withdrawal even after the elec-

tions. It seems that Israel sold the early elections idea to the US as a low-risk proposition. After all, Peres is ahead in the polls; Hamas has not blown up buses recently; and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has committed himself to amending the Palestinian Covenant before the date talked about for the elections.

Yet in politics, anything can happen. Peres has run four times before, and despite having leads in the past, never turned them into an unambiguous victory. The Likud has said that, if elected, it will not withdraw from the Golan. So one cannot preclude the possibility that the peace talks will not return to where they are today.

Ambassador to the US Itamar Rabinovich once wrote about missed opportunities with Damascus soon after the establishment of Israel. The US seems to be betting that Peres will win in May, and the current talks will yield more than a sequel with the same name.

## Labor court prevents Magen David Adom from taking action against blood bank director

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Tel Aviv Labor Court last night issued a temporary restraining order barring any change in status for Magen David Adom blood services director Dr. Amnon Ben-David. The case will be discussed with both sides present at a future date.

The order, sought by Ben-David's lawyers Uzi Azzmon and Dan Ahiezer, cut short discussions by MDA's board of directors of proposed sanctions against Ben-David, who four years ago approved his predecessor's decision not to use most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants or to inform them that their blood was likely to be destroyed.

Atzmon said that dismissing or suspending an employee for reasons given by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh - who last week asked MDA director-general Amos Luria to suspend Ben-David - was "without precedent." Before the court order was issued, Luria appeared before the 11-

member board in Tel Aviv and asked that it approve putting Ben-David on a forced vacation until the Navon Commission reaches its conclusions on the blood-donor affair, disclosed by *Ma'ariv* 10 days ago.

Sneh, reacting to the news of restraining order, said he would wait for the court to reach its final decision. If it decides to permanently bar any sanctions against Ben-David, Sneh said, he would honor this decision.

The Israel Medical Association and the Israel Hematology Society yesterday voiced their full support for Ben-David, saying his decision not to use most blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants - because their risk of HIV was 50 times that of the general population and because lab tests could not discover all carriers - was correct. His decision not to inform immigrant donors that their blood

would not be used (except for rare types, which were frozen and the donors later retested) was aimed at protecting the Ethiopian immigrant community from stigmatization by the general public, they said in a statement.

As the 11-member MDA board deliberated, dozens of blood services workers demonstrated in the building in support of Ben-David, and eight Ethiopian immigrants protested below to demand Ben-David's dismissal. The board asked MDA legal adviser Ami Osnat to prepare the organization's response to the court order and ask for the go-ahead to send Ben-David on forced vacation. The board also issued a statement rejecting claims that MDA had acted in a "racist" or "antisemitic" way.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres last night officially appointed former president Yitzhak Navon as

head of the commission of inquiry into the Ethiopian blood donations affair.

*Evelyn Gordon adds:* The Unified Ethiopian Immigrants Organization yesterday withdrew its petition to the High Court of Justice against Magen David Adom's refusal to use blood donations from Ethiopian immigrants.

The court was supposed to have heard the case tomorrow.

In a letter to the court, the group said its decision was the result of a meeting with President Ezer Weizman, at which it was agreed to stop the battle over the blood donations for the time being in order to calm the situation; of the establishment... of a committee to investigate the claims of the Ethiopian immigrants; and of the order given [MDA] by Health Minister Ephraim Sneh... to freeze blood donations from donors of Ethiopian origin until the committee has finished its work.

## Likud, Tsomet to form single election bloc

Eitan drops bid for premiership in exchange for No. 2 slot

SARAH HONIG

THE Likud and Tsomet have reached agreement on establishing a unified electoral bloc for the next elections. The agreement is to be initiated this week.

Though neither party would officially confirm the reports, sources said the deal has been struck and that Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan will not run for prime minister.

The parties will not merge, but will be fielding a single Knesset ticket and will both back Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu for premier. After the elections, the parties will have the option of remaining together in a united parliamentary bloc or going their separate ways and setting up their own Knesset factions.

The agreement between the parties resulted chiefly from Likud efforts to end Eitan's candidacy, which Netanyahu viewed as particularly detrimental to his chances against Shimon Peres.

The agreement was hammered out in a series of near-clandestine meetings by Likud director-general Avigdor Lieberman and Tsomet director-general Doron Shmueli. After it is initiated, the agreement must be ratified by the central committees of both parties.

Under the deal, Eitan will get the second spot on the joint ticket and Tsomet will get eight slots in the first 40.

The key to the allocation of slots is the number of seats won in 1992 by the Likud and Tsomet. The Likud won 32 Knesset seats, and Tsomet started the present term with eight. It was agreed to overlook the defection from Tsomet of Gonen Segev, Alex Goldfarb, and Esther Salmovitz, and David Levy's and David Magen's leaving the Likud.

Besides removing Eitan from the prime ministerial race, the agreement is geared to giving the national camp a morale boost. Its actual electoral value is hard to gauge.

Tsomet had in past campaigns nibbled into Labor's support, and it is not clear whether its potential electorate would fully follow it into a partnership with the Likud, and whether those with a Labor past would vote for a Likud-led list.

News of the deal may also cause internal problems in the Likud, where the primary race for safe slots on the Knesset list is very crowded.

At this point, no one knows where the Tsomet candidates will be placed and how far down on the list the Tsomet newcomers would push the very hard-pressed Likud contestants.

Tsomet had already finished putting its own list of candidates together, the first party to do so.

## PM to announce early elections next week

SARAH HONIG

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres will announce his decision on early elections by next week, even though the consensus in Labor is that the decision has already been made.

But Peres yesterday told Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal and Labor Knesset whip Ra'anon Cohen that he prefers the line that he has not yet decided. Presumably this is done in order to deny a tie between the decision and US Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit.

Labor sources say Peres will meet with Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu next week to give him the official word, to ask for Likud cooperation in passing legislation to dissolve the Knesset, and to find a mutually agreeable election date. Netanyahu yesterday said his party does not oppose rescheduling the elections, but that he is awaiting word from Labor.

According to Cohen, the dates now contemplated for the elections are May 14, May 21, or May 28 - all Tuesdays.

Peres told Shahal that "announcing early elections now would be too early and doing so after mid-February will be too late."

Cohen is to confer with his Likud counterpart MK Moshe

Katsav today to begin the traditional haggling about an election date.

Meanwhile, practical preparations for early elections were underway in Labor headquarters. These include advancing the party's Knesset primaries once again. They were already moved back from June to April 17, and the talk now is about moving them to March 26, the day the Likud had long ago slated for its primaries.

Party secretary-general Nissim Zvilli has ordered generous overtime allotments to ensure that the bureaucratic groundwork for the primaries is completed by an earlier than envisioned target date. Early elections fever, however, extends beyond the primaries. There is already hectic activity to prepare the infrastructure for the campaign itself.

Shahal is seen as managing Peres's campaign for prime minister, while Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer is likely to be put in charge of the Knesset campaign. Labor sources claim that Interior Minister Haim Ramon will be heading the party's "information drive."

"Everything is all ready for the race. All that is needed now is the firing of the starting pistol," Cohen said last night.

## 'Southern Rapist' gets 21 years for attacking 4 women

A BEERSHEBA man dubbed the "Southern Rapist," was sentenced to 21 years' imprisonment by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday for raping three women who took rides with him and trying to rape a fourth.

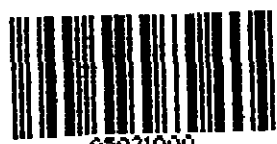
Meir Asour, 26, acquired a gun illegally and in December 1993, at the Negev junction, gave a ride to a woman who had been waiting for a bus to take her to the Youth Village near Sderot. On the way, he stopped the car and raped the woman at gunpoint.

In February 1994, Asour gave a ride to a woman soldier who was waiting at the Nahshon-Rehovot junction. He drove into a wooded area and raped her in the same manner. About 10 days later, he gave ride to a 25-year-old woman who wanted to go to Hatzor. He raped her too, and asked her to have sex again; when she refused, he raped her again. He then took her home.

Two days later, he gave a ride to a 19-year-old woman soldier who was waiting at the Nahshon-Rehovot junction. He drove into a wooded area and raped her in the same manner. About 10 days later, he gave ride to a 25-year-old woman who wanted to go to Hatzor. He raped her too, and asked her to have sex again; when she refused, he raped her again. He then took her home.

A passing driver saw the soldier fleeing and tried to block the road so Asour's car couldn't pass. Asour drove around them and escaped, and the driver took the soldier to the police station. (Idm)

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# PLO chiefs meet in El-Arish today

JON IMMANUEL

THE PLO Executive Committee is to meet in the Northern Sinai town of El-Arish today for a two-day meeting to discuss the Palestinian election results, the role of the 88-member council, and how to approach changing the national covenant.

The committee includes members of the opposition Popular and Democratic Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine who have said they will not participate in the Sinai meeting.

But some 100 DFLP members and 50 PFLP members want to return from abroad.

About 50 of them are members

of the PNC.

The acting PNC chairman Salim Zaanoun says he has prepared a list of 165 members of the Palestinian National Council which has been given to the Israeli authorities, but it has not yet been received, the spokesman for the government coordinator in the territories said yesterday.

The discrepancy could be due to the inability of the Palestinian Authority to come up with more names.

Some 300 PNC members are living abroad and the announce-

ment of a list may be designed to pressure them to join it.

The executive committee is expected to decide whether the anti-Israel charter should be altered or dropped entirely and replaced with a new constitution reflecting the existence of a self-governing Palestinian Authority.

Meanwhile, the popular debate concerning the future of the charter has begun heating up with many newly elected 88-member council members, who will be appointed to the PNC, saying it should wait until Israel guaran-

tees Palestinian statehood.

There are also some odder suggestions, including a demand that Israel change the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* before Palestinians change the charter.

At a meeting in Khan Yunis this weekend, apparently unaware that the *Protocols* are a Czarist antisemitic forgery, Ra'faat Najjar, the only PFLP member to run and be elected to the 88-member council, was quoted in the daily *Hayat al Jadida* newspaper Saturday as saying, "We demand a change in the *Protocols of Zion* in exchange for changing the charter."



St. Peter's fish are pulled from the lake in the South Tel Aviv Park yesterday, after what is believed to be a case of the poisoning of hundreds of fish. Four dead seagulls were also found near the lake. (Gideon Markowitz/TPA)

## PA, Israeli police chiefs meet, praise cooperation

BILL HUTMAN

COOPERATION between the Israeli and Palestinian police forces is excellent and has already shown results, the Palestinian police chief and his Israeli counterpart in Judea and Samaria declared yesterday, on the occasion of their first meeting.

"The both of us have proven we can work together to fight crime," said Brig.-Gen. Ghazi Jabali, during a brief ceremony before the meeting, held at the Palestinian Police Academy in Jericho.

Cmdr. Alec Ron, head of the Judea and Samaria police district, said, "overall, the agreements [on police cooperation] are being observed...Over the past several months we have come to greatly appreciate the work of the Palestinian Police."

Ron and the entourage of Israel Police brass were greeted by an honor guard, and given demonstrations of both classroom and field training at the police school. Senior Palestinian and Israeli officers have been in almost daily contact in recent months but the police chiefs had never met.

Israel Police officers said that the work of the Palestinian Police has been felt most in the area of car thefts. Since November, the number of thefts have dropped by over 10 percent, largely because of a Palestinian Police crackdown, the officers said.

Jabali said there were around 8,000 policemen in the Palestinian police force, and by the end of the year that number should reach 12,000. The figure does not include officers in other branches of the Palestinian security forces, such as the Preventive Security Service.

Disruptions in municipal services expected

WIDESPREAD disruptions in municipal services throughout the country are slated for tomorrow as part of a campaign by the Union of Local Authorities against budget cuts. ULA, chairman Adi Eldar said the stoppages would go ahead unless they today received a positive answer to their demands from the government.

David Rudge

## Islamic Jihad supporters condemn Arafat for two slain

JON IMMANUEL

HUNDREDS of Islamic Jihad supporters followed the coffins of two slain members yesterday shouting "death to Israel," "death to America" and hinting at death to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. "Tell Arafat Islamic Jihad killed Sadat," was heard among the shouts.

Eymad Ruzeineh and Amar Ajaj were killed Saturday night when they opened fire on Palestinian policemen who came to arrest two other Jihad activists in

the Shati refugee camp, the Palestinian Police said in an official statement.

Hamas and Islamic Jihad spokesmen described the killings as "criminal."

Hamas spokesman Dr. Mahmud Zahar demanded an inquiry and trial of those responsible.

The two were suspected of involvement in the double-suicide bombing in Beit Lid a year ago and planning other attacks after

the killing of Islamic Jihad leader Fathi Shkaki in Malta in October.

"The bullets that used to kill Jews are aimed at the chests of the holy martyrs," shouted Islamic Jihad leader Nafez Azzam, at the Gaza cemetery where the bodies were buried.

Meanwhile, Israeli military sources denied a report the IDF had arrested another wanted Islamic Jihad activist, Nidal Bouri, as he was trying to cross into Egypt from Rafah. The Palestinian Police would not comment.

## Two IDF soldiers wounded in zone

DAVID RUDGE

TWO IDF soldiers were very lightly wounded by mortar fire in the eastern sector of the security zone yesterday afternoon.

The soldiers were at a South Lebanese Army position, in the Ali Tahr hill range region, when several mortar rounds fell in the compound. The two IDF soldiers suffered light cuts and abrasions. They were treated at the scene and later returned to their duties.

The army spokesman said the mortars were fired from a village north of the security zone, and that IDF and SLA gunners returned fire.

Hizbullah gunmen often use residential areas as cover for launching long-range attacks on IDF and SLA targets in the zone, taking advantage of the Operation Accountability understandings that the IDF will not purposely fire into villages in order to avoid causing any civilian casualties.

The fact that the terrorists use civilians to protect their own activities, however, is itself viewed by Israel as a breach of the understandings.

Hizbullah has been concentrating most of its efforts recently in attacks on SLA targets in an apparent effort to try to undermine and dismantle the force.

## Cytryn will be released this week

HERB KEINON

KIRYAT Arba resident Shmuel Cytryn, placed under administrative detention on December 4, will be released at the end of the week, his lawyer Nafali Wertzberger said yesterday.

However, Wertzberger said, OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran has barred Cytryn from leaving Kiryat Arba for the next three months.

According to Wertzberger, Biran also extended by three months the orders barring David Shirel from leaving Hebron.

Kiryat Arba residents Reuven

Black and Anthony Lorain, he said, will be barred from entering Hebron for the same period.

After receiving recommendations from a military appeals court, Biran cut in half, from six months to three months, the period that three of the heads of the Od Yosef Hai yeshiva in Nablus - Eli Rosenfeld and rabbis David Dudkevitch and Yitzhak Shapira - have been barred by administrative order from entering the yeshiva. The court had recommended rescinding the order against Dudkevitch altogether.

## Hearing held on detainee's appeal

EVELYN GORDON

THE Supreme Court yesterday heard administrative detainee Aryeh Friedman's appeal against his detention.

Friedman, 50, is a haredi rabbinical leader who lived for a few years in Kiryat Arba before returning to Jerusalem about six months ago. He was put into detention for three months on January 11, and Jerusalem District Court President Vardimos Zailer upheld the detention two weeks ago. The detention is apparently based on Friedman's allegedly extremist views.

At the hearing in front of Justice Zvi Tal, which by law was held entirely behind closed doors, Friedman's attorney, Mordechai Mintzer, argued that Defense Minister Shimon Peres could not possibly have considered the detention order before signing it, since it was signed just before he got on a plane to Paris to attend former French president Francois Mitterrand's funeral. Furthermore, he argued, the state admitted to Zailer that it had not considered alternatives to detention - though the state said yesterday that this was not true.

Mintzer also argued that there was not even any psychological evaluation before the state decided that Friedman was a danger, which showed that this decision was not a professional one.

The state, in response, continued to argue that Friedman is a danger to state security, and insisted that Peres had properly considered the order.

Friedman's wife, Sarah, said after the hearing that she has no idea why her husband is in detention, and can only assume it is because he once lived in Kiryat Arba.

"He's never in his life been involved in any extremist group," she said. "But the whole thing was behind closed doors, and I have no idea what went on... Israel has become a socialist republic, not a democratic republic."

However, she said, she was hopeful that the court would free her husband, as she has been told that Tal, the court's only religious justice, is also "a good judge and a fair judge."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Woman shot in Ramat Hasharon**  
A 35-year-old woman was shot and seriously wounded in her head and abdomen yesterday in a luggage store in Ramat Hasharon. Doctors at Beilinson Hospital were fighting last night to save her life. Police are investigating whether the shooting was related to a marital dispute. *Itim*

**IDF to report to cabinet on service cut**  
Prime Minister Shimon Peres yesterday instructed Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak to examine the IDF's manpower needs and report back to the cabinet, at an upcoming meeting, on whether the term of mandatory service can be cut. *Itim*

**One killed, six injured in Haifa accident**  
A 50-year-old Haifa man, Sasson Mizrahi, was killed and six others injured when a van crashed into a car in Haifa's Hadar district early yesterday morning. The other occupants of the van and the car suffered light to moderate injuries. *David Rudge*

**Jordan's Kabariti forms new government**  
King Hussein, ignoring criticism of his policies, named a new prime minister yesterday who is noted for his outspoken support of the king's controversial moves away from Iraq and toward Israel. The appointment of Abdul-Karim al-Kabariti, 46, and the retirement of veteran figures in Jordan's power structure also signaled a shift to a new generation of leaders. *Reuter*

**Ramallah recount doesn't come off**  
Only two of 18 ballot boxes in Ramallah that were to have been recounted yesterday following the loss of the ballot tallies from the January 20 council election were counted, as most of the teachers assigned to do the job declined and called for a revote in the entire Ramallah district. Results from the two boxes that were counted showed little difference from the previous unsupervised count, "but since they were unsupervised for so long, the count is unreliable," Barghouti said. *Jon Immanuel*

**Nature Protection Week begins**  
Nature Protection Week officially began yesterday, with the country's environmental groups protesting the government decision to continue the Trans-Israel Highway project. *Liat Collins*

## Rafael workers plan 'all-out fight'

DAVID RUDGE

WORKERS at the giant Rafael plant south of Acre are planning what they described as an all-out fight against compulsory dismissals and plans to turn the armaments development authority into a public company.

"From [today] we will be starting a long and ongoing fight to reach a just solution to the problems at Rafael," said David Zuckman, chairman of the workers' action committee.

He revealed that employees intend to stage protests in Tel Aviv

and outside the plant today as part of their campaign, although they have temporarily stopped their work-to-rule.

"We have stopped the sanctions in the plant and we are taking the fight outside," said Zuckman.

The employees are pressing for workers to be allowed to leave voluntarily, rather than be sacked. They are also demanding better terms for those who leave

than have so far been offered by management.

More than 70 government employees have already received notification of pending dismissal.

Yigal Cohen, head of the trade union department of the Histadrut's Haifa branch, said a request had been submitted to the secretariat of the department representing engineers, asking for a new labor dispute to be declared at Rafael.

He said a decision is expected today.

To the Ellenhorn Family  
Deepest sympathy on the death of our colleague  
**Prof. MATTHEW J. ELLENHORN**  
Staff of  
The Israel Poison Information Center  
Rambam Medical Center, Haifa

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY  
The Maurice and Gabriela Goldschleger  
School of Dental Medicine  
The faculty and staff of the Dental School mourn the untimely passing of  
**HERB STEIN**  
of Barstow, California, a major benefactor of the Dental School, and donor of the Herb & Ed Stein Chair in Oral Pathology, and the Herb & Ed Stein Oral Medicine Clinic.  
Our hearts go out to Justine and the family.

JIA  
SAVING JEWISH LIFE  
The Joint Israel Appeal of Great Britain and Ireland  
extend sincere condolences to  
George Balint and his family  
on the passing of his dear wife  
**IRENE BALINT**

The Yad Benjamin Educational Center in Israel  
Friends of Religious Settlement, England  
extend their deepest condolences to  
George Balint & Family  
on the passing of his beloved wife  
**IRENE BALINT**

RAMOT SHAPIRA EDUCATIONAL CENTER  
extends its sincerest condolences to  
George Balint  
on the passing of his dear wife  
**IRENE BALINT**  
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Several injured Chinese construction workers are taken into custody yesterday in a police patrol car. Police had forcefully broken up a demonstration by some 200 workers who were protesting against their employers' failure to pay them. (Gideon Markovitz/TPA)

# Cabinet gives go-ahead for Trans-Israel Highway

Sarid, Tzur and Beilin overruled

THE government yesterday decided to go ahead with plans to build the Trans-Israel Highway, over the objections of Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tzur, and Minister Yossi Beilin.

The move was welcomed by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat, who said the three had put forward a "surprising and strange" proposal to stop the building of the road by creating a team which would examine the options for reducing demand for the highway.

Sarid, Tzur, and Beilin argued that no serious consideration had been given to other alternatives to the highway. The road, they said, would cause great damage to agricultural areas and nature reserves. In a written proposal to the cabinet, they

HAIM SHAPIRO

said the highway does not present a long-term solution to the traffic problem. They also suggested giving higher salaries to employees instead of car allowances, which only gives people impetus to buy cars.

Shohat said the highway is only one of the transportation infrastructures which had to be created to keep the country from turning into one big traffic jam. Also needed are improved roads, he said.

At the same time, Shohat said, it is necessary to find a solution to the problem of mass transit in Tel Aviv and other key locations, such as Haifa and Jerusalem.

Before the government decision, Otniel Schneller, head of the Highway Safety Administra-

tion, and the Manufacturers Association added their voices in favor of the highway.

Schneller said the environmentalists had been using the issue of road safety cynically in their opposition to the thoroughfare, since all studies show that the greater the congestion, the greater the chances of being involved in an accident.

Schneller said he supported the building of the highway, but at the same time believed it should have a special traffic police unit which would enforce regulations and "create new driving habits."

The Manufacturers Association had appealed to Trade and Industry Minister Micha Harish to push forward the building of the highway, to facilitate the transport of goods throughout the country.

## Police concede unnecessary force was used to disperse demo of Chinese workers

UNNECESSARY force was used to break up yesterday's demonstration by some 200 Chinese construction workers in Tel Aviv, senior sources in the Hayarkon Police District conceded yesterday.

The workers were protesting against their employers' failure to pay them on time or to fulfill an agreement to send part of their salaries to their families in China. The workers had gathered at the Dolphinarium and began

marching to the Chinese Embassy in North Tel Aviv.

Near the Jerusalem Beach, the police blocked their path, after the marchers caused huge traffic jams.

Eyewitnesses reported that marchers were knocked to the ground and beaten.

Police contended that several policemen, including two officers, were also injured, and that one policeman remains hospitalized.

One of the demonstrators showed a reporter that he had had several teeth knocked out, and the police admitted that a policeman had hit a protester in the face, breaking several of his teeth.

Seven Chinese were arrested for assaulting police officers, disturbing the peace, and demonstrating illegally.

All seven were released after the Chinese Embassy intervened. The Israeli employers were

called and organized buses took the workers to their construction sites.

An investigation revealed that many of the workers were justified in their complaints against their employers, and that others, who had been paid on time, demonstrated in solidarity with their countrymen.

The employers promised the police and the Chinese Embassy they would rectify matters immediately. (Iim)

## Bar-Ilan to mete out punishment for Amir photo brochure blunder

BAR-ILAN University promised yesterday to punish whoever was responsible for including a dozen photos of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, Yigal Amir, in a US fundraising brochure dedicated to Rabin's memory.

Amir had been a law student at the university.

The American Friends of Bar-Ilan University issued a letter of apology for the incident, saying it took full responsibility for the blunder.

University President Moshe Kaveh said he had called the manager of the American fundraising apparatus, Yehuda Halevy, to Israel for "discussions," and ordered all organizations representing Bar-Ilan abroad to submit publications for advance approval.

HaLevy said yesterday, upon arrival in Israel, that his organization was fully responsible for the error. Kaveh and Levy met last night with the board of the university.

News agencies

Following the meeting, it was decided to summon the president and vice-president of the American Friends of Bar-Ilan, Jane Stearn-Lebell and Melvin Stein respectively, to Israel today for consultations.

"Despite the fact that the appearance of the Amir photos in the journal was purely coincidental, I am determined to make sure this will never happen again," Kaveh said.

Kaveh said "the responsible officials in the US will be held accountable," but gave no specifics.

The English-language brochure was distributed at a dinner last month that was also dedicated to Rabin's memory.

Kaveh called the inclusion of Amir's photograph "an egregious error of oversight, not an act of intent or malice." Kaveh said he was "embarrassed and angry" by the incident.

University officials said most of

the brochure was printed in October for a dinner scheduled for November. After the assassination, they said, the dinner was postponed to January and new pages commemorating Rabin were added to the booklet.

Nobody noticed the existing pages featured Amir, they said.

Despite the university's insistence that the publication of the pictures was a mistake, Knesset Education Committee chairman Dalia Itzik threatened to take action against the institution.

Itzik's spokesman, Erez Friedman, said she was calling a committee meeting tomorrow to discuss the matter.

Meanwhile, she said she wants the government to stop all funding to the university.

The spokesman said the government provides 70 percent of the university's budget. "The heads of Bar-Ilan will have to give clear answers why the booklet was not destroyed and discarded," Friedman quoted Itzik as saying.

## Families of detainees must be informed

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday ordered the state to ensure that the families and attorneys of security prisoners are notified immediately of the fact that an arrest has occurred, where the prisoner is being held, and whether the attorney may meet with his client.

The court was hearing a petition filed by attorney Lea Tsemel on behalf of Janna and Sallah Sherif, who are suspected of assisting Hamas in general and a specific terrorist to whom both are related. Janna, a Hebrew school principal, was arrested on January 25, while Sallah, a driving teacher from Elzariya, was arrested on January 23.

Tsemel filed the petition last Thursday because she had been unable to meet with either, and withdrew it at yesterday's hearing after the state said she could meet with Sallah, and that a legal order had been issued forbidding her to see Janna until February 8.

However, Justices Gavriel Bach, Eliahu Mazza, and Ya'akov Kedmi, appeared shocked by Tsemel's description of events.

Tsemel noted that neither she nor the family had been informed of where Sallah was being held. A police list showed him to be at the Etzion lock-up, but the police there said they had never heard of him. They directed Tsemel to the Ma'aleh Adumim police station, which also had never heard of Sallah, and the Jerusalem police denied all knowledge of him. Tsemel's office began a telephone search of the country's lock-ups, and was finally told, on January 31, that the prisoner was in fact in Etzion, but under the authority of the General Security Service rather than the police. The police officer who told her this said he had no idea whether she could visit her client or not.

The state, in its response to the petition, said even this was not true: Sallah was in fact in Jerusalem's Russian Compound lock-up.

"There have already been several cases like this," Bach said, appalled.

Under Bach's pressure, government attorney Michael Blass agreed that the state would look for ways to ensure that this does not happen in the future. To underscore the matter, Bach detailed what he expected from the state in his decision: That "families and attorneys are informed immediately" of the arrest and told where the prisoner is being held, whether the attorney can meet with the prisoner, and, if not, why not.

## Village battles 8-year 'temporary' injunction

EVELYN GORDON

THE Beit Jann Local Council yesterday asked the High Court of Justice to cancel two interim injunctions forbidding villagers to use a certain agricultural road, on the grounds the injunctions have already been in force for more than eight years.

Alternatively, the Druse village in the Galilee asked the court to order the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel (SPNI) to give a financial guarantee that if it loses the case of which the injunctions are part, it will cover the damages which the injunctions have caused the villagers.

The case involves a short road connecting the village to the residents' olive groves. The SPNI filed a petition against this road in 1987, saying it was illegal because it runs through the country's largest nature reserve, Mount Meron. The village claimed the

land was never part of the reserve. In response to the petition, however, the court issued an interim injunction forbidding the villagers to use the road, in question until the final ruling on the case. It issued a similar injunction in response to a further petition on the same issue the following year.

Since then, there have been numerous discussions among the parties, tentative agreements, hearings, and additional petitions, but the case is still pending. In the meantime, according to the petitioners, the injunctions have caused the villagers some NIS 17 million worth of damages as of October, 1995, and this sum increases by about NIS 210,000 every month, they said.

The petition argued that an interim injunction is by nature meant to be a temporary measure. However, it said, an injunction that has lasted eight years cannot be considered temporary. These injunctions have given the SPNI what it wanted on a more or less permanent basis, without the need to actually win its case in court, the petition said, and this is unfair to the villagers.

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# Bosnia demands disarming of Serb police

THE Bosnian government, angered by the continuing presence of Serb police in Sarajevo suburbs now formally under its control, demanded yesterday that they be disarmed.

A government statement apparently bowed to the insistence of NATO and international mediators that the police should stay an extra 45 days to reassure nervous Serbs.

But the new demand indicated the government was still angry about the matter, which cast a deep shadow over the Dayton peace agreement stipulating that five Serb-held Sarajevo suburbs should come under the control of the Moslem-Croat Bosnian federation from Saturday midnight.

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who was unable to patch up the row during a brief visit to Sarajevo yesterday, flew to Belgrade with a somber message for Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

US officials traveling with him told reporters the United States would not approve international aid, a permanent end to sanctions or full diplomatic recognition of Belgrade until Bosnian Serbs indicted as

**KURT SCHORK**  
SARAJEVO

war criminals were extradited.

The UN's International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague has indicted 52 people, all but seven of them Serbs, charged with atrocities during the nearly four-year war. They include Bosnian Serb political leader Radovan Karadzic and army commander General Ratko Mladic.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters Christopher was raising the issue "forcefully" with Milosevic.

A senior Bosnian Serb official on Saturday dismissed the idea that Karadzic should step down before elections to be held by next September, as laid down in the Dayton accord.

Christopher's two-day visit to former Yugoslavia was marred by the death of the first U.S. peacekeeping soldier in Bosnia.

Donald Allen Dugan, 38, who was married with two children, apparently stepped on a mine on Saturday in northern Bosnia while manning an isolated checkpoint, military officials said.

His body was flown out from the main US base at Tuzla yesterday after a brief military ceremony on the tarmac. (Reuter)



Soldiers of the 325th Cavalry carry the casket of Sgt. Donald Allen Dugan to an awaiting aircraft at Tuzla Airbase in Bosnia yesterday. (AP)

# Perry: NATO to expand despite Russian concern

US Defense Secretary William Perry insisted yesterday that NATO would press ahead with plans to admit new members from eastern Europe despite Russian objections.

**MICHAEL SHIELDS**  
MUNICH

"NATO enlargement is inevitable and if NATO enlargement is the carrot encouraging reforms, then we cannot keep that carrot continually out of reach," he told the annual Wehrkunde meeting of defense experts in Munich.

Perry's comments came a day after Russian Deputy Defense Minister Andrei Kokoshin warned that NATO's embrace of eastern Europe could spark a backlash against reforms in his country by sharpening Moscow's suspicions of the alliance's intentions.

Kokoshin took a relaxed approach to Perry's comments, saying the exchange in Munich was constructive and useful even though he could not agree NATO expansion was unavoidable.

tributes to the security of Russia as well as the security of its own members," he said, but added: "When I reached that conclusion, most of the Russians I talked to fell off the cliff."

At last year's Wehrkunde conference, Perry suggested forging a formal strategic partnership between NATO and Russia that has yet to bear fruit.

But he said he was encouraged by Russian troops' participation in the NATO-led Implementation Force helping to safeguard the peace accord in Bosnia and held it out as a model for other cooperation ventures.

"We want Russia inside the circle working with us, not outside the circle throwing rocks at us."

NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana agreed.

"Frankly speaking, we have lost time over the past year in establishing a political framework for a workable, long-term relationship with Russia," he said.

"Some have suggested that perhaps we should expect less from this relationship or even that we should choose between NATO's future enlargement and its partnership with Russia. I reject this attitude."

The 16-member western alliance has made clear it will open its doors to emerging democracies in eastern Europe that want to join, but it has not said which countries it will admit or when.

Moscow has stressed the importance of building up a pan-European security system in which NATO could play an important but subordinate role.

(Reuter)

That is one of the points on which we disagree," he told reporters with a laugh. "But at the same time this disagreement is not blocking our cooperation in many other areas."

Perry contended that NATO membership for emerging democracies in eastern Europe could actually boost Moscow's security in the post-Cold War era.

He said he had told Russian officials that a vibrant, healthy NATO working together with Russia would keep the United States involved in European security, keep Germany bound into the security architecture and avoid isolating Moscow.

"NATO, far from being a threat to Russia, actually con-

tributes to the security of Russia as well as the security of its own members," he said, but added: "When I reached that conclusion, most of the Russians I talked to fell off the cliff."

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(Reuter)

# Ex-US Senator: IRA in danger of splitting

LONDON (AP) - As Northern Ireland's political stalemate continues, there is a danger that some IRA members will return to violence, breaking a 17-month cease-fire, former US Senator George Mitchell warned yesterday.

The IRA's allies dismissed talk of a split within its ranks.

Police have blamed the IRA for killing seven criminal suspects within its

Catholic power bases despite the cease-fire. On Saturday, the IRA denied it was behind a gun attack on the home of a policeman - the first attack on security forces since the group stopped its armed campaign against British rule.

In a BBC TV interview with David Frost, Mitchell - who consulted widely during his group's inquiry - said he believes there "is a danger of a fracture within" the IRA.

"It seems clear that not all on the republican side favor the cease-fire and the potential for some elements to take direct and violent action does remain," Mitchell said. Martin McGuinness, deputy leader of the IRA-allied Sinn Fein party, said he was "surprised" by Mitchell's comments. "I don't believe there is any danger of a split within the IRA," he said.

# China quake toll may hit 300

BEIJING (Reuter) - The deadliest earthquake to hit China in eight years has killed 340 people, injured 14,000 and left hundreds of thousands of homeless huddled in freezing weather and jolted by aftershocks, officials said yesterday.

The Red Cross Society of China appealed for international aid, following Saturday's quake in the scenic Lijiang region, 2,000

km southwest of Beijing.

The death toll climbed to 240 late yesterday as rescue teams fanned out into worst-hit villages in search of survivors amid fears the final death toll could rise over 300, the official said.

"Rescue teams expect to find only seriously injured people and the bodies of the dead now," the official said.

# Guinea president takes over mutinous army

CONAKRY, Guinea (AP) - The Guinea president took over as defense minister yesterday in an effort to calm rioting soldiers who killed at least 20 people over the weekend.

State radio in the West African country said President Lansana Conte made the announcement

while meeting with army representatives at a military barracks yesterday morning.

"With effect from today, the head of state, Gen. Lansana Conte, has assumed the duties of defense minister, in addition to his functions as president," the statement said.

About 2,000 of Guinea's soldiers

went on the rampage in the capital on Friday, demanding back pay and the firing of the defense minister, whom they accused of blocking pay raises and promotions.

Conte responded Friday by firing the defense minister. But soldiers continued to attack the presidential palace with cannon and gunfire

throughout the night - setting it on fire and forcing Conte to flee into a bunker.

The soldiers ended their mutiny on Saturday after Conte agreed to meet with them. Radio France International reported at least 20 people were dead and 70 injured.

# Britain raps Kohl's EU proposals

LONDON (Reuter) - British newspapers and politicians united yesterday to condemn German Chancellor Helmut Kohl for suggesting the alternative to closer European Union integration could be war in the 21st century.

Tristan Garel-Jones, a former British minister for Europe, said Kohl appeared to believe Germany could not be trusted to keep the international peace. "The message is clear: you must all do what we say or there will be war," he said in an article published in the Sunday Telegraph.

"Helmut Kohl seems to be using the specter of past wars as nothing but a chilling aid to modern political ambitions," the Mail on Sunday newspaper, a close supporter of Britain's Conservative government, said in an editorial.

In a speech in Brussels on Friday, Kohl said the European Union risked taking a huge step backwards unless there was greater harmony.

Echoing words he has used before, but which on this occasion struck a raw nerve in London, he said European integration was "in reality a question of war and peace in the 21st century."

Kohl repeated these sentiments in a speech in Munich on Saturday, saying: "The question of war or peace in the 21st century really hinges on the progress of European integration."

There is increasing concern in British government circles that Germany and France might do a deal to ease the introduction of a single European currency in 1999.

France looks unlikely to be able to meet strict economic criteria

which the EU's Maastricht Treaty lays down for countries which want to join, and London fears that the two countries will do a deal to lower the hurdles.

But the Sunday Times said in an editorial: "If Germany cannot be relied upon to act responsibly in the Europe of nation states, its good behavior will hardly be guaranteed by camouflaging its power in a renamed Deutschmark zone called Emu (economic and monetary union)."

Deputy Prime Minister Michael Heseltine took a more relaxed view of Kohl's speech.

"He is arguing the German case as the leader of Germany. Europe is a partnership of nation states and they are all there seeking their national self-interest, and rightly so," he told BBC television.

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# Sub-zero weather in US spreads south

WASHINGTON - Arctic weather spread to traditionally warmer areas of the United States yesterday, sending sub-zero temperatures to the south and threatening Florida's citrus crops.

The privately-owned Weather Services Corporation said temperatures were expected to slump to minus 4 to minus 1 Celsius overnight in central Florida, the main citrus growing area.

In North Carolina, Governor Jim Hunt declared the snow, sleet and freezing rain the worst natural disaster in many years and asked President Bill Clinton to declare a state of emergency.

It was minus 19 degrees C in Nashville, Tennessee. The brutal cold continued in the midwest and central areas and Chicago woke up to temperatures of minus 26 degrees C. At least seven people have died in the past few days in fires while trying to keep warm and a spokesman for the mayor's office said three people had died of exposure.

Weather Services Corp said there would be some relief in the next few days and that temperatures were expected to rise steadily in those areas hardest hit by the bitter cold.

(Reuter)

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# His 'value added' isn't so taxing to the music consumer

**C**D is the abbreviation not only for Compact Disc but for Concerts' Demise, according to pianist Tomer Lev.

"The concert in which the artist comes, bows, plays and leaves is totally passé. Today's audience is searching for a little bit extra than what a CD can offer."

This development is opening the door to a new era in concert-going and performance practice, says the 28-year-old Jerusalem native, who recently completed his doctorate at the State University of New York in Stony Brook.

Lev's offers "added value" by making music an interdisciplinary experience and placing the works in a cultural and historical context.

Last season Lev inaugurated two series of what he calls concert-talks, in which a certain theme is being presented and followed through.

One of these series focused on fin-de-siècle Paris in general and in particular on the music of Debussy, Ravel and Satie.

"It was the age of enlightenment for the interdisciplinary in arts. It

### MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

was a time when painters, poets, writers, musicians and even film makers were flourishing in Paris, a time in which each and every art form was totally related to all the others.

What started last year on a small scale at the Jerusalem Music Center has grown this year to a much more varied series at the Tel Aviv Museum. "Last year was just piano music. Now we have more interdisciplinary work and more musicians."

The point of departure for this series is a clear understanding that "this music is part of a larger picture, of a larger artistic environment which should be understood too."

His partner is television personality Emanuel Halperin, who is responsible for finding relevant period texts and delivering them to the audience. "Halperin also explains about the overall artistic context of the time while I talk about the music we play."

This year's Tel Aviv Museum series opened a few months ago with a Debussy concert and continues this month with two more concerts. Tomorrow features a Ravel program including two unknown works which were discovered and printed in 1975. On February 27 there will be an Eric Satie concert.

Lev maintains that each of the composers represented in the series was strongly influenced by World War I.

"We make a point of playing works which were written directly as result of the war and show how these events changed the life of these composers." The final concert in the series takes place on May 7.

Not all such interdisciplinary concerts are a success, admits Lev, citing the example of his recent appearance with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra in Scriabin's *Poem of Fire*. Special lighting design was added to the concert, an experiment that left audiences cold. He won't give up, however. "I do believe in this opus



Pianist Tomer Lev believes audiences need to hear more than what they get on a CD.

and I believe that in a right presentation it could be very successful."

# Batsheva troupe floored by UK choreographer

### MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

**C**horeographer Paul Selwyn Norton likes to get down. Dancers often spend as much time on the floor in his works as they do in the air. This holds true of *The Rogue Tool*, which he is creating for the Batsheva Dance Company.

"I make them do on the floor what they would normally do when they stand and go into the air," said the 32-year-old British choreographer, at the Suzanne Dellal Center, while illustrating the sensation he asks his dancers to transmit to the audience. "I take the dancers to the furthest possible extreme of gravity and then destroy it."

Norton has been creating dance for only four years. He started out as a medical student and has a degree in theater, which he put to use with various companies in the UK and in the Netherlands. It wasn't until he was spotted by a Dutch theater director in a disco that Norton turned to dance professionally.

"People try and explain what I do in terms of my past. They tend to say, he did this and that because he was a medical student. Then they found all kinds of disco elements in my work. It irritates me."

His theatrical background does come into play, however. "I take theatrical ideas and rework them

in terms of movement values." Above all, he likes "the grotesqueness in cartoon imagery."

In a rehearsal room at the Suzanne Dellal Center, Norton doesn't interrupt the dancers' work much. He lets the company members to go through long stretches of his movement before giving some comment or asking for a few changes.

Norton has choreographed only three other works: *Johnny Panic* (1992), which was premiered at the Spring Dance Festival 1993; *Judy's Croon* for the Dutch National Ballet in 1994; and *Pork* for the Cadance Festival 1994. He doesn't try to disguise the fact that he's a relative neophyte in dance.

"Most of the dancers I work with have far more technical information in their body than I do. So at times I have to rely on them and get their help in order to get out of a certain situation where I simply don't know how to continue."

Norton finds it particularly stimulating to work with Batsheva, as he works in an entirely different way than the company's artistic director, Ohad Naharin. "I destroy the natural sense of movement while Ohad builds on that. But this is just what turns me on, it's how I process information."

His works all deal with movement, rather than narratives. "I like to extrapolate movement, to take away the idea of gravity and push more towards the floor," Norton adds that he is always "looking at the body as a scientific tool. The body for me is an anatomy of an inflatable bag of skin. And then I ask myself, if that is the case then how do we actually move?"

*The Rogue Tool* is danced to the music of renowned British jazzman Fred Frith. But for a long part of the rehearsal period he simply used a rhythm provided by the composer to work with. The final piece arrived less than a week before the premiere this Thursday.

His new work for Batsheva is about dysfunctionality, Norton asserts. "I work in an organic way. I like to find the relationships between the elbows and the knees for example. I like to create schizophrenia in the body."

*The Rogue Tool* will be premiered on Thursday by the Batsheva Dance Company at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv, with further performances Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday. It is performed on a double bill with Tero Saarinen's *Fluck*, which the Finnish choreographer created for Batsheva last season.

# A very bleached raisin in the sun

### FILM REVIEW ADINA HOFFMAN

### WHITE MAN'S BURDEN

Written and directed by Desmond Nakano. Hebrew title: *Sheloh al Lomah*. English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance strongly advised.

Louis Pinuck — John Travolta  
Thaddeus Thomas — Harry Belafonte  
Marsha Pinuck — Kelly Lynch

In a 1917, Russian formalist literary critic Viktor Shklovsky outlined an artistic technique he called "defamiliarization."

"The purpose of art," he said "is to impart the sensation of things as they are perceived and not as they are known." That is, the writer must use a variety of methods to jar familiar objects and phenomena from their ordinary contexts and so make us see them as if for the very first time.

Screenwriter Desmond Nakano's directing debut, *White Man's Burden*, employs this kind of defamiliarization to powerful, timely effect, and through a deceptively simple switch in perspectives provides an unsettling view of race relations in America today.

The movie's setting looks exactly like contemporary Southern California — with one crucial difference. Blacks represent old wealth and power, while whites have been consigned to the inner city and the underclass. According to this reversal, the luxurious mansions of Beverly Hills are occupied almost entirely by well-tailored blacks who drive sleek Rolls Royces and own corporations. The whites, meanwhile, live in broken-down, dangerous neighborhoods where gangs of skinheads rule the roost and policemen (black, of course) cruise by

only occasionally — most often to beat up an innocent man who "meets the description" of a criminal suspect. In other words, he's white.

John Travolta plays Louis Pinuck, a factory worker with a wife (Kelly Lynch) and family to support. One day, Louis's dapper black boss asks him to deliver a package to the wealthy Thaddeus Thomas (Harry Belafonte). It's far out of Louis's way, but he agrees without complaint. When he arrives at the gate of the posh estate, a white maid buzzes him inside and tells him to go around to the side entrance. Louis gets a bit lost, though, and winds up accidentally glimpsing Thomas's nude wife through a window.

As soon as Louis's boss gets wind of the incident, the white man loses his job and is given no chance to explain. And things grow worse for Louis quickly: he and his family are evicted, then his wife packs up the kids and goes to live with her mother in the housing projects. Enraged, his pride wounded, Louis decides to take matters into his own hands. He kidnaps Thaddeus Thomas and demands to be paid for the days that he's been out of work.

Didactic and, well, black-and-white as the fable may sound, *White Man's Burden* works by means of creepy insistence, reducing matters slightly to make its worthwhile point. (There are no middle-class white people in the movie, or poor black ones.) What's more surprising, the film has a prickly sense of humor.

Driving his battered pick-up truck through a ritzy part of town, Louis averts his eyes from the little white sambo on somebody's lawn; Thomas's wife coos conde-



John Travolta plays a member of the white underclass in this vision of a Southern California which is driven by a startling racial reversal of fortunes.

scendingly about a bunch of "adorable little white children." There are numerous examples of this disturbing, shoe-on-the-other-foot satire in the script, written by Nakano, who is neither white nor black, but Japanese-American. His outsider's perspective lends the film an evenness of tone that might not be possible otherwise. It's clear that the filmmaker feels most strongly for Travolta's char-

acter, but he never turns Belafonte's Thaddeus into a complete villain either.

The casting of the two actors is also fairly inspired. Travolta may well be the blackest white man in movies today. He sounds completely natural as he utters Nakano's jived-up dialogue, and his explosive hand gestures fall into a peculiar pan-ethnic category — part Sicilian, part hip-hop.

More importantly, he manages the range of angry-hurt-desperate emotions that drive Louis and make us feel for him, beyond color.

Belafonte, too, carries himself with dignity. Through his measured performance, we understand that, in order for the racially-fractured situation in America ever to start to improve, empathy will need to flow in all directions.

# Whirligigs discarded en route to the 'Village'

### HELEN KAYE

**T**he first of four models Alexander Lisiyansky built and discarded for the set of *Village* was a stage-filling staircase interrupted by half a dozen Rube Goldberg contraptions that whizzed, clanked or swung.

"I usually work with models from the beginning," says the 37-year-old architect, artist and theater designer, "because it's easier to understand the space that way."

He and *Village* director Yevgeny Arye finally decided on a revolving wooden walkway surrounding and surrounded by "fields" of grain.

And "just as the little adventures of *Village* turn within the great events of history," as Yehoshua Sobol puts it, so the people and set pieces come and go on the revolve.

The Geshet Theater commissioned *Village* from Sobol, the first Israeli play the theater has done. It's about the daily life of a little village somewhere in the Land of Israel during the tumultuous years from 1940-48.

His *Village* set is the first Lisiyansky has done for Geshet although he was with the company in Moscow. A pen-and-ink drawing he sketched just before he immigrated in 1990 shows a group of bearded and hatted Jews huddled at the edge of a cliff. Far, far below is the sea, and in the sea floats, uncertainly, a little tiny land with "Eretz Yisrael" written on it.

Today, that leap into the unknown is comfortably behind him. With his teacher wife, Galia, Lisiyansky relaxes into the worn cushions of the old sofa in his basement studio at Geshet. He's had four one-man art shows in the last four years, and in 1992 won Best Stage Designer of the Year from the Tel Aviv Museum.

He has a solid career in the theater and is on the verge of submitting an entry for a big architectural project. His Hebrew is pretty good now. The couple's 14-year-old daughter, Nastasya, is a regular Israeli kid and two-and-a-half-year old David is a bouncy sabra. Lisiyansky was a second-year architecture student at the Architectural Institute in his home town of Voronezh when he saw the Taganka Theater production of *Hamlet* designed by David Barovsky — who later became his friend and mentor.

Lisiyansky graduated in 1980 and went straight into the theater because the immediate post-Brezhnev era "was an uninteresting time for architects."

In 1982 he became Barovsky's apprentice at Taganka in Moscow, and in 1984 moved his apprenticeship to the equally prestigious Sovremennik Theater, whose chief designer he became until he emigrated.

He designed some 40 shows in Moscow, Voronezh and other Russian cities. In 1987 he was asked to design the Russian pavilion at the Prague International Quadrennial for Stage Design, and won a gold medal for it.

So why did he come here? Growing up in Voronezh, he explains, "I knew I was Jewish, but that's all. I never experienced antisemitism there, nor when I came to Moscow, but at the Sovremennik, I felt I had no place to go. I went to talk to David, and he suggested Israel."

His first design job here was for Yosef Bar-Yosef's *Winter Holiday* at Habimah and he's designed for practically every theater here since.

His life here is economically tough, "but always interesting. I'm lucky that I could work in my profession from the beginning."

Preview performances of *Village* start today at the Geshet Theater in Old Jaffa and it premieres February 18.

# Women playwrights unvisited by feminist muse

**"T**he era of the woman is approaching," says the literary manager of London's Royal National Theater once told Edna Mazia. "And I'm surrounding myself with women dramatists so I won't be out of a job when the time comes."

Mazia and sister playwrights Gore Agmon and Miriam Kainey — all in their 40s — laugh a little ruefully at this anecdote. They are among the very few local women dramatists — like Shulamit Lapid, Hagit Rehaviv or Anit Gov — who have a proven track record in a traditionally male bastion.

Mazia's newest play, temporarily titled *A Family Affair*, will open at the Cameri Theater in mid-season. Her long-running *Games in the Back Yard* and the 1995 *The Uncle from Cape Town*, both Haifa Theater productions, are solid hits.

Agmon's *The Heiress* will go on at Beit Liessin at the end of the season, while Kainey's *Bianca*, directed by Micha Lewensohn, plays at that same theater from February 18.

*Bianca* is "about refugees and uprooting," says the Austrian-born Kainey, who immigrated from Odessa when she was eight. "All I ever really write about is the conflict between the way we'd like to live our lives, and the conditioning imposed on us by our upbringing," she explains. "Bianca would love to strike roots, but she can't."

Her heroines are mostly strong women, like Antigone in her adaptation of the Sophocles play or Yosefa in *The End of the Dream Season*. This 1991 play caused a furor because its heroine "steals sperm" by coolly seducing a man in order to become pregnant.

The quiet, self-contained Mazia's first play was the 1991 *Vienna on Sea* for the Haifa Theater, whose resident playwright she has been for the last three years. *A Family Affair* is about three generations of a German-Jewish family living in Heidelberg in 1937. Mazia describes them as "so busy with their own concerns that they remain blind to the catastrophe shaping outside."

**HELEN KAYE**

The mercurial Agmon (who is also an award-winning children's playwright) writes plays that go for the emotional jugular, with humor as a buffer. *The Heiress*, triggered by a difficult family experience, is about the conflict between a brother and sister over their mother's will.

Israeli playwrighting, the three agree, has come of age and audiences prefer local plays to translations. Today's playwrights are writing about what matters to them in our society, "and the trend is that there is no common trend," Kainey says.

"Except that the theaters expect some kind of [specific] Israeli or Jewish resonance as an added value," Agmon argues. "Plays with a strong social message are the most successful, and I think that men tend to do sociopolitical level more than we do."

Kainey has a sudden epiphany. "I think that Goren's writing may be the beginning of female writing," she says from under a

mop of graying curls.

Three astonished pairs of eyes swivel to take in her explanation.

"Even if I write for another 200 years solely about women, my world of symbols is male."

"But Goren is different. She writes from some place totally inside herself. Her fears, her courage, her humor are totally feminine, totally uncolored by masculine perceptions."

Mazia isn't convinced.

"I'm not sure that there is such a thing as female writing," she says delicately. "If you're angry at the system or this world order that men control and if you get up in the morning and write about it then it's female writing."

"Human existence seems so tragic to me: death, disease, accidents, that I haven't yet reached the place where I can concentrate on the man-woman thing."

Mazia says. "Maybe that's why I've never had any problems

with the male hierarchy of the theaters."

Kainey sticks to her opinion, claiming that if a woman writes a bad play "theater managers come out with all the usual cracks about women writers. If a man submits a bad play, it's just a bad play."

"You always work within your limitations," Mazia insists. "I've never felt discrimination. The theaters are hungry for good material."

"If you're on the map and you bring money to the theater, then everybody wants you. It's a question of economics," Mazia says.

Strident feminism, all three concur, has been missing altogether from local playwrighting. By and large, women playwrights, like their male counterparts, write about what interests them.

"The bottom line," Mazia says, "is whether you're good or not. No good play ever lies neglected in a drawer."

# Getting all jazzed-up at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque

Saxophonist Lee Konitz, bass player Eberhard Weber and tap-dancer great Will Gaines are among the performers enriching the 1996 *Jazz, Blues and Videotape* happening at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque from February 22 to 24.

What's more, after a long absence, Yoni Rechter is back onstage with a program of songs from his earliest "Angels' Tears" to tracks from his newest album *Thoughts and Possibilities*.

Other programs include *Black is a Color*, an evening of rhythm and blues and gospel, with saxophonist Yaroslav Yakobovitz, Margalit Tzan'ani and guests from the US including saxophonist Lou Marini, a founding member of Blood, Sweat and Tears.

Peter Wertheimer and Minuet are among the local performers in the 12 concerts, which range from free jazz to jazzed-up Bach. Tickets at NIS 45 to NIS 55 are on sale at the Cinematheque box-office only. *Helen Kaye*

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Ecumenical Institute for Theological Studies  
Thursday, February 8, 8:45 p.m.  
Yossi Klein Halevi  
Senior writer for *The Jerusalem Report*  
and author of recently published *Memoirs of a Jewish Extremist*  
**From Rage to Reconciliation:  
A Post-Holocaust Journey**  
Theater Auditorium, Eshkol Road towards Bethshalem,  
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## The power of stupidity

If there is a moral to the scandal around the dinner journal produced by the American Friends of Bar-Ilan University it is that one should never underestimate the power of stupidity. Nor should one ever assume that institutions of higher learning, let alone organizations devoted to raising funds for them, are immune to the affliction of imbecility.

Anyone familiar with the way fund-raising dinners are planned and managed in the US will understand how Yigal Amir's photograph remained in the journal. These fancy, expensively produced booklets are planned a year or two ahead. In the Bar-Ilan case, the photographs were taken more than 18 months in advance, and undoubtedly officials of the Friends organization thought the picture of Amir (whose name they did not know) was a photogenic example of an "ethnic" student. As such, it contributed to the image every Israeli university seeking funds in the US is eager to promote. (It's a safe bet that next year they will make a special effort to find an Ethiopian student.)

The dinner, scheduled for November 12, was postponed because of the assassination, and the event became a tribute to Yitzhak Rabin. Israel's Consul-General Colette Avital, Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau and the great philanthropist (and the Rabin family's close friend) Erica Jesselson paid homage to the late premier. The journal, too, was changed, but only the relevant parts: the opening photograph now depicted Rabin receiving his honorary doctorate from Bar-Ilan University, and letters hailing his life and work replaced the letters of praise for the university's benefactors.

Not surprisingly, the routine promotional parts were left intact. And that they contained Amir's picture on almost every other page went unnoticed by the professional (but obviously less than meticulous) event organizers, who probably never bothered to look at the booklet before the dinner. Even if they had, it is not at all certain they would have recognized Amir. In the US, his picture is not nearly as familiar as it is here.

To suggest that anyone deliberately left it there "to wink at some of the university's rightist contributors," as some critics have charged, is not only to beggar credulity but to prove that there is no limit to the malevolence of the university's enemies.

Particularly regrettable is that Leah Rabin has been fit to cast such aspersions. By declaring "it is difficult to believe that this happened just like that, only because of carelessness," she contributed to precisely the atmosphere of suspicion and polarization she professes to abhor. Less surprising is that television commentator Amnon Abramovitz and Labor MK Dalia Itzik joined the chorus of maligners, and that peace camp groups have picketed the university and demanded its closing. These are no more than a reminder that in an election year anything goes.

Yet it would be wrong merely to blame sloppiness, carelessness and bumbling incompetence for the incident, and to demand that the appropriate heads roll and let it go at that. The university is guilty of much more than a blunder. For the almost two weeks between the dinner and the revelation on television of the uncanny presence of the Amir photo in the journal, university officials were obviously hoping that the blunder would just blow away. (This, too, was a measure of their inanity. Not only were there 600 guests at the dinner, the whole Israeli press corps had been invited.)

And by failing to emerge from the dinner with an immediate and profuse public apology for the offensive booklet, the university leaders compounded ineptitude with a moral lapse. They clearly hoped that by withdrawing the booklet and avoiding the usual mailing to supporters they would forestall public censure. This is nothing less than an attempt at a cover-up, in which not only the group of American supporters was involved, but university officials from then-president Prof. Shlomo Eckstein on down. They were all aware of the shocking offense by the time the dinner was over on the night of January 21. They should have apologized for it on the 22nd.

It would probably be prudent to dismiss those directly responsible for the initial mistake. No organization can afford employees who can commit such blunders. But it would be far more important for the university administration under its new president Prof. Moshe Kaveh to understand that while mistakes can be forgiven, it is utterly inexcusable in a public institution to compound them with a whitewash. It is their job to set an example of moral and ethical conduct, and - above all - to display the necessary courage to admit error.

THIS GOVERNMENT WILL  
SERVE ITS FULL TERM.

SHIMON PERES, Nov. 22, 1995



## Paradox of modern man

JONATHAN BLASS

Man is made of both body and soul. On a larger scale, the world we live in is built of both nature and higher ideals. A nation is land and people animated by a "national-idea."

On a religious level, the Torah's physical obligations are complemented by the divine ideals that permeate them. But paradoxically, in what is often described as a material age, we have problems, not in acknowledging the importance of the mind and spirit, but in accepting that the material component of our existence - body, nature, land, the physicality of the mitzvot has any transcendent significance.

Many, for example, are willing to profess a belief in Jewish ideals, but rebel against the concept that what one eats or what day of the week it is can have spiritual importance, a concept essential to Jewish religious observance. For those to whom food, for better or for worse, is no more than calories, and one day is identical to the next, Judaism's imperatives played out in the physical world may have symbolic significance, but nothing more.

Also affected is society's attitude toward sex. Love is spiritual and significant, sex, being physical, is not.

Almost one year ago MK Yael Dayan defended homosexuality as an expression of love between two people. Implied: How that love is physically expressed is simply not important. The late Allan Bloom reported in *The Closing of the American Mind* that his university students attributed their relaxed sexual norms to their understanding that "it is no big deal."

Even the -value of life itself, when perceived as merely the natural biological basis of the human identity built upon it, has been called into question. The importance of preserving life allows some to declare peace an ultimate

sterile freedom pitted against the wholeness of life that includes nature and the physical world.

Pulitzer prize-winning author Gary Wills writes in *Lincoln at Gettysburg* that the greatness of Lincoln's nationalist vision included both geography - "on this continent" - and transcendent idealism, "dedicated to the proposition" within a single fertile unity that promised "a rebirth of freedom." A similar vision, linking land and prophetic idealism, is found in Israel's own Declaration of Independence.

It is against this background of denigrating the significance of the material world that the enthusiasm of the Israeli for relinquishing territory should be understood. Prime Minister Peres's call to judge Israel's greatness by the number of its PhDs and not by its mileage contrasts the spiritual with the physical, and dismisses the latter.

Allowing our nationhood to be defined by land is seen to be, like any acceptance of physical definitions imposed by nature or history, constraining. Giving up parts of the land of Israel becomes a liberating experience, moving our self-definition into the realm of the purely spiritual, where it had been before the State of Israel, when national life had ceased to exist in historical and material dimensions, and the greatness of the Jewish people shone exclusively in abstract moral and intellectual achievements.

But what is being venerated is the spirituality and freedom of the graveyard of the soul released from the limitations of the body, a

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### RELIGIOUS COERCION

Sir, - I refer to Haim Shapiro's report of January 22 concerning Haim Ramon's talk to a delegation of American Reform rabbis.

Does Mr. Ramon really wish 300,000 Reform members to come to Israel? The answer is clearly no - it would make it more difficult for him to bribe the Orthodox establishment. A more important question is why should any liberal-minded Jew wish to migrate to a country where he would be denied freedom of conscience and freedom of belief?

Like so many others of his kind, Mr. Ramon uses the peace process as a despicable red herring. He knows well enough that the people he wishes to replace are those who oppose the peace process while most liberal-minded Jews are actively supportive. Does he really think that bribing the Orthodox parties will make them more peace-loving?

How dare he involve army service in his rhetoric? My husband and children have served in the army, my grandson will be doing so shortly and, I am afraid, my great-grand-

children will have to do so in the future. Will giving up our civil and religious rights deliver us from the need of serving in our army?

Let Mr. Ramon come to Beersheba and see what the (Conservative) Masorti Congregation here is doing to present a meaningful and humane Judaism to new immigrants. When forced by circumstances to make contact with the Orthodox establishment, these people come away with loathing and disgust.

Our conversion classes demand lengthy studies, personal involvement and commitment as well as ritual immersion. Conservative conversion cannot be bought as is the case, it appears, in certain hareidi "rabbinical" courts. Yet Mr. Ramon, who shows no feelings for Jewish heritage and tradition, prefers by circumstances to make contact with the Orthodox establishment, these people come away with loathing and disgust.

Is there nobody in the Labor Party who dares to put a stop to Mr. Ramon's pompous behavior?  
ESTHER ROSENKRANZ-VARDIN  
Beersheba.

### THE WUJS

Sir, - Your January 10 feature raised painful but legitimate questions about the decline of the World Union of Jewish Students. One WUJS official was quoted in your article as saying that since the early 1990s, "we've lacked leadership, lacked direction and lacked new projects." That may be so, but those of us who were active in WUJS during the 1980s know that the problems did not just begin in the last few years.

I believe that our major difficulties began in the late 1980s when, under the leadership of Yossi Abramowitz, WUJS began to direct a considerable part of its attention to issues that were not related to Israel and the Jewish people. We all knew that Yossi had been a leading anti-South Africa activist at Boston University, but we could not imagine that he would make apartheid a major issue on the WUJS agenda. His public defense of Archbishop Desmond Tutu in 1987, after Tutu made his anti-Israel and antisemitic statements, was disillusioning to many of us. His meetings with officials of the African National Congress - at a time when the ANC was openly supporting Arab terrorist groups - was also troubling.

In addition, Abramowitz's involvement in the Jerusalem Cinematheque controversy - he demonstra-

tively ate in its restaurant (and was photographed by the Jerusalem newspaper *Kol Ha'ir*) after its kosher certificate was revoked for staying open on the Sabbath - unnecessarily insulted and alienated Orthodox students who belonged to WUJS.

There were plenty of organizations out there for people who wanted to fight against apartheid and against the Jerusalem kosher authorities. The WUJS was not the appropriate venue for such activities, and it is no surprise that a number of students, including myself, left WUJS as a result.  
DAVID COHEN  
Boca Raton, Florida.

### POLICE PHOTOGRAPHY

Sir, - Former US president Jimmy Carter, professional defender of the "underdog" and the man who engineered Israeli surrender of Sinai, was reportedly disturbed by the intimidation by Israeli police photographing Arab voters in East Jerusalem. We who participate in right-wing demonstrations accept picture-taking by internal security forces as the norm, along with invasion of privacy, middle-of-the-night house searches, administrative detention, non-disclosure of charges and denial of the right to counsel.  
Jerusalem. AVRAHAM Y. GROFF

### DISTRUST

Sir, - In his article of January 24 "Strange mistrust of Arabs," Gabi Sheffer wonders why some of us mistrust the Arabs and in particular the Palestinians.

I would like to remind the distinguished professor of some facts. Only five years ago, both King Hussein and Arafat sided with Saddam Hussein when missiles fell on the most populated Jewish areas. The reason for their 180-degree change is their belief that the present agreement is in their interest. If the political balance of power changes, there is no reason to believe that they may not revoke the agreements.

As for the Palestinians, I hope that Professor Sheffer watched TV just before their election when they burned our Israeli flag in front of hundreds of thousands who participated in a demonstration in Gaza in the presence of members of the Palestinian Authority. He probably also heard Arafat advocate jihad against Israel.

As for democracy, when he sees as the basis for friendly relations, the sudden disappearance of 40 ballot boxes and their mysterious return some time later and many other frauds in the election are not indicative of democratic behavior.

Wishing thinking that the situation will change should not blind us.  
PROFESSOR D. SHALTELL  
Jerusalem.

### VOICE OF SANITY

Sir, - Jerusalem Post columnist Moshe Kohn writes that since the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, he has received many letters - nearly all of them critical and many insulting. Most of the letters order him to stop criticizing the government and the misnamed "peace process." Some even charge him with responsibility for the Rabin assassination.

To many Americans, Israel is like an insane asylum run by the inmates. How else would one describe a people so submissive and lacking in the human instinct of self-preservation that they accept policies that reward the murderers of their children with the land, water and holy places of their nation?  
Moshe Kohn is one of the few voices of sanity coming out of Israel and he is much admired in the US. He is a threat only to those anti-historical nihilists who are determined to strip the Jewish people of their land and their heritage.  
GEORGE RUBIN

New York.

JAN 10 1996

For  
jicks

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## Second Draft

### History sinks its claws into the Gulf War.

By R. W. Apple Jr.

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## Strangers

### Israelis confront their other race problem.

By Serge Schmemmann

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Rina Castelnuovo for the New York Times

## Prince and the Pauper

### How does the Duchess owe \$4 million? Hint: the laundry bill was \$36,000.

By Sarah Lyall

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## Vox Populist

### Just Regular Ruling-Class Guys



Brook Kraft/Syzygy

Everyone's going down-home. Patrick J. Buchanan, the Republican Presidential candidate, took the stage at a picnic in New Hampshire last summer.

By RICHARD L. BERKE

**T**HE most striking thing about Steve Forbes's rapid rise from the protected bubble of his corporate jet, the Capitalist Tool, to the turbulence of life as the hot Republican Presidential commodity is what his opponents are not saying about him.

They attack his flat tax plan as wacky. They attack his barrage of television commercials as mean-spirited and misleading. They attack him for lacking government know-how.

But they are more reluctant to fault Mr. Forbes for what may seem his most glaring vulnerability as the first official tests draw near: that this member of one of the wealthiest families in America has bought his way

BEDFORD, N.H.

### In this campaign, criticizing the wealthy isn't just crass. It's undemocratic.

to the top of the field while touting as a panacea for the middle class a plan that cuts taxes for the rich.

That is because Mr. Forbes, of all people, has managed to acquire a label prized by contemporary American politicians: he is a populist.

Populist? America's original populists, those sharp-tongued champions of struggling farmers and silver miners, were enemies of wealth and power. Their

political party of the 1890's favored Government ownership of railroads and telegraph lines and promoted the graduated income tax. Their attacks on big business helped inspire the Progressive movement, which contributed so much to the very New Deal liberalism that Mr. Forbes and his Republican rivals want to bury.

They were the tribunes of class conflict, the polar opposite of today's conservatives. "You will see arrayed on one side the great magnates of the country, and Wall Street brokers, and plutocratic power," a Kansas populist named L. L. Polk said in 1890, "and on the other you will see the people."

Now come the self-described champions of a new populism whose enemies are not New York plutocrats but Washington bureaucrats. They are a surprising lot — wealthy or Washington insiders or both. Malcolm

Continued on page 4

## Not Quite Democracy

# Africans Look East for a New Model

By HOWARD W. FRENCH

**A**CROSS the continent of Africa, for many of the countries that can still dream of economic progress instead of simply hoping to ward off disaster, the most seductive development model lies not in the ripe old West, but rather in the fermenting economies of the Far East.

Hoping to copy blueprints that allowed some Asian countries to leap from poverty to relative prosperity in little more than a generation, more and more African leaders are heading off these days on tours of countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Korea.

And along with their economic recipes, these leaders are returning home with authoritarian political notions. These may clash sharply with the Western ideal of democracy, but they have the merit, the leaders say, of being more in tune with traditional African values.

### Sacrifice and Obedience

Having flirted in this decade with democracy, one country after another is now seeking to implement a form of government that meets some technical requirements of democracy but in reality is the most formalized kind of pluralism possible: one in which only the most marginal questions of national interest are subject to open debate, and leaders rig their electoral systems, minimizing to virtually nil the chances that they will be voted out of office.

In doing so, governments in countries from Ivory Coast to Uganda are invoking the model of the tightly controlled Asian society, with its Confucian notions of sacrifice and obedience.

The pro-Government Ivorian newspaper, *Fraternité Matin*, carried the strongest recent articulation of this philosophy earlier this month, in a lead editorial that said that



Kenya is planning a major airport in the home town of President Daniel arap Moi, shown with an army honor guard last April.

### Asian lands have had fast growth amid tight control — but only when there is also social partnership.

the strength of Japan came from a caste system in which "the samurai does not seek to replace the emperor, or to speak in his place."

Pursuing this line to its chilling conclusion, the editorialist proposed a formula that would enable this country to develop: "The party member needs to stick to the line and not impose his point of view on superiors; the manager will not exceed his prerogatives and divert the funds of the enterprise for which he has responsibility; the expatriate should not violate any of the rules governing his stay; the cleric, rather than giving political speeches to support one camp or another, should stick to what he can contribute to the spirituality of his flock."

For many experts on Africa, there are many problems with these nose-to-the-grindstone nostrums. Not the least is the fact that they leave unanswered a question that this continent has managed more disastrously than any other: Who will keep an eye on the leaders?

"The success of authoritarian governments elsewhere is based on things that African leaders have not paid sufficient attention to," said Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, a Liberian who is the deputy administrator for Africa of the United Nations Development Program. "First there was an emphasis on human resource development. Just look at the high literacy levels in most Asian

Continued on page 3



## The World

# The Latest History of the Gulf War

By R. W. APPLE Jr.

**E**VEN at its best, as the late Phil Graham of The Washington Post said, journalism is no more than a first rough draft of history. And sometimes, as in the case of the war in the Persian Gulf in 1991, the draft is very rough indeed. Not surprisingly, the war's fifth anniversary last month prompted a series of revisionist retrospectives.

To a degree unprecedented in recent American history, reporters were limited in what they were permitted to see in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. A good deal of what they did see never reached print or got onto the air, at least in the brief period when the world was paying close attention. Some of what they were told by United States officials was untrue, either because the officials did not know the truth or because they did not wish it to be known. Finally, more than in most earlier wars, many reporters lacked the knowledge of the region and of military affairs to evaluate what was going on.

### Unraveling Accounts

Happily, some people have kept tugging at the sleeve of this history, long after the last shots were fired, and a lot of the official version of events is beginning to unravel. As ever, heroes are seen to be human as well as superhuman; villains are seen to have had a method in their villainy. Causes are seen to be complex, and so are results; victories are less than complete. It is a valuable corrective, if it does not go too far, and it is a process as old as war itself. If it does go too far, the pendulum of correction eventually swings back. Grant and Patton, to cite just two examples, have both been up, down, back up and back down again in the years since their feats of derring-do, and the books are not closed on either of them.

This ongoing revisionism is the very nature of history, especially where war is concerned. The confusion of combat is axiomatic, as is the difficulty of grasping the operations of a battalion from the vantage point of a squad or the operations of a corps from the vantage point of a battalion. Only after the controversy of political decision-making has cooled can the participants' stories be gathered, compared and evaluated. Only when secrecy is no longer an imperative can sensitive documents be declassified. Only with the perspective of time can cause and consequence be clearly seen. Changing the lens can reveal new insights and relationships, as has been the case with historians who in recent years have focused more on the manners and mores of ordinary people and less on the high and mighty, or (more controversially) those who have applied Marxist economic theories.

But academic victimology and intellectual political correctness has given the phrase "historical revisionism" a slightly gamy



Kenn Meyer/The New York Times

Victory seems a bit less complete now than in 1991, when a ticker tape parade rolled through Manhattan.

smell of late. Rightly so. The process cannot work if the new conclusions precede the search for new evidence or the reexamination of the evidence already on the record. Anti-American or right-wing or feminist or racial biases are not adequate, by themselves, to challenge widely accepted ways of looking at things.

In the case of the Gulf War, the revisionism began almost as soon as the last shots were fired. "The gate is closed," General Norman Schwarzkopf famously declared in Riyadh as the fighting was ending, but it wasn't. It was wide open at Basra, as the whole world could see within a week when two-thirds of Saddam Hussein's elite Revolutionary Guard escaped back into Iraq. It took a little longer to see, in the postwar words of Maj. Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the commander of the 24th Infantry Division,

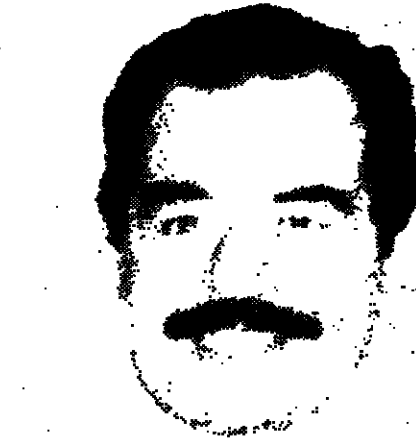
that the whole end-game was flawed. With hindsight, it was evident not only that the cease-fire came before the trap had been sprung but that the trap itself was badly designed — that the Marines attacking directly toward Kuwait City went off too soon and too fast, reaching their objective so quickly that the Revolutionary Guard divisions never moved south to help in its defense and could not be cut off by the allies' left hook across the desert.

### A List of Failures

That was one of the major conclusions of "The Generals' War" (Little, Brown & Co., 1995), the first really thorough account of the politics, the diplomacy and the fighting, written by Michael R. Gordon of The New York Times and Bernard E. Trainor, a

retired Marine lieutenant general who now teaches at Harvard. Based on exhaustive interviews, equally free of hagiography and cynicism, the book won quick acceptance, even among many of the generals. It also documented American diplomatic mishandling of Saddam before the war; the failures as well as the successes of the Patriot missile defense system; General Schwarzkopf's temper, and General Colin L. Powell's extreme reluctance, born out of the shattering experience of Vietnam, to commit American troops to battle.

Last month, television documentaries moved the process along. In an interview with David Frost on the BBC, George Bush disclosed that he had worried that Saddam would pull back across the border at the last moment, making offensive action impossible for the allies but tying them down indefi-



Saddam Hussein

A book and several TV shows advance the revisionist debate.

nately in defensive positions. The correspondent Bill Kurtis on A & E suggested that some British and American soldiers' exposure to toxins unknown — lead in the smoke from burning oil wells, nerve-gas pills, insecticides, poison gases released by allied bombing raids? — had produced genetic defects in their children.

A pair of two-hour "Frontline" programs on PBS offered testimony from important figures — Brent Scowcroft, Generals Powell and Schwarzkopf, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, Margaret Thatcher and the former Iraqi foreign minister, Tariq Aziz, among many others — and challenged a lot of conventional wisdom. Civilian officials like Mr. Scowcroft and his deputy, Robert M. Gates, to say nothing of President Bush, had far more stomach for battle than the top generals, by "Frontline's" account and their own, and even some of the ground commanders, such as Lieut. Gen. Fred Franks of the VII Corps, were timid when battle came. The programs demonstrated how ragged the ending really was, with American mistakes at the Safwan talks inadvertently aiding Saddam in suppressing Shiites, whom the United States had urged to rebel, and in clinging to power. (Mr. Bush admitted as much in the Frost interview.) Mrs. Thatcher, who played an important role in stiffening President Bush's resolve, noted that she and Mr. Bush soon lost power, while Saddam "the aggressor" stayed in office. "I wonder who won," she said.

The answer to that, of course, is still hotly debated. The Iraqis were thrown out of Kuwait, a message of international resolve was delivered and Saddam's wings were clipped. But Shiites and Kurds in Iraq were massacred by Saddam's troops all the same, the regime in Baghdad is as repressive as ever and its nuclear and chemical-warfare capacities were not destroyed as claimed. Like all wars, this one was full of ambiguity. Vietnam and its lessons remain contentious to this day. Whether the struggle in the Gulf was worth the candle — the loss of life, the billions of dollars spent — is a question for decades, and for revisions of history, still to come.

## Israel and the Ethiopians

# Welcoming Newcomers Isn't Always So Easy

By SERGE SCHMEMMANN

**J**ERUSALEM THEIR success in absorbing Jews from the world over has been a matter of great pride for Israelis. In the past decade alone, their country of about 5 million made room for 30,000 Ethiopian Jews and a half million Russian Jews, all without massive disruption.

The unexpected violence of the thousands of Ethiopian Jews who protested outside the Prime Minister's office last Sunday, however, showed that making room for immigrants is not the same as making them welcome, and it compelled native Israelis to reexamine many of their presumptions, methods and attitudes in handling "aliya," the coming of Jews to the Land of Israel.

The immediate trigger for the rioting was the disclosure that medical authorities had been routinely dumping blood donated by Ethiopian immigrants because of a purportedly high rate of HIV infection among them. But the larger message for Israelis was how deeply offended many immigrants — not only Ethiopians, but Russians and Moroccans and Yemenites before them — are made to feel by the paternalism of the absorption process, and by disdain for their different customs and ways.

The same self-assurance that enabled Israel's founders to put together a Jewish state in the first place also imbued them with the notion that it was for them to determine how ensuing waves of Jews should be "absorbed" into Israeli society. One result was that many newcomers felt alienated or ethnically stereotyped. Sephardic Jews long complained about discrimination in employment and politics at the hands of European Jews, and Russian Jews now find themselves stereotyped as mafiosos, prostitutes and whiners.

For the Falashas, or Strangers, as Ethiopia's ancient tribe of Jews was known in the Ethiopian language, the problem has been especially acute, because they are dark-skinned East Africans and their religion and customs developed in centuries of isolation from mainstream Judaism.

Israelis met their arrival, in two large airlifts in 1985 and 1991, with huge outpourings of emotion, and in ensuing years the Government poured large resources into housing and education for them. When complaints arose over problems with the education and the slow rate of assimilation, these

were often dismissed as glitches in the transition of a people from subsistence in Africa to this high-tech society.

Israelis took pride in the belief that racism was not among their problems. Some snobbery on the part of the native-born, or "sabras," perhaps, or some regrettable stereotyping, some inescapable disputes over resources, a dollop of paternalism and bureaucracy; but most Israelis seemed to take it for granted that what was being done for the immigrants was for their own good.

But all the while, frustration and anger was rising among the Ethiopians. They were put in trailer camps, their children were compelled to attend religious schools or substandard boarding schools, their blood was tested, and, to their ultimate humiliation, the Judaism they had proudly sustained through the centuries was put in question by the Orthodox rabbinical establishment. When the Rabbinate finally agreed to accept them as Jews, it was on condition that they undergo a symbolic conversion. For the men, who were already circumcised, that meant the degradation of having a drop of blood let from their penis. Yet even those who consented to the process were not always accepted as Jews.

### The Big Surprise

So it should not have been so surprising that when they learned that even the blood they donated was being rejected, they got mad. Still, even after a newspaper disclosed the matter, nobody expected these peaceful immigrants to explode. But more than 15,000 people turned out, and when the rocks, batons, tear gas and rubber bullets had subsided, more than 70 police officers and protesters were injured.

Most Israelis, and many Ethiopian Jews, argued that callousness and paternalism, not racism, were the problem, despite the stories among the Ethiopians of racist comments here and there. But the appearance, at least, was troubling.

"It's very hard to separate out all the different factors that contribute to the marginalization of a group here in Israel," said Rabbi Micha Odenheimer, director of the Israeli Association for Ethiopian Jews and a critic of the Government's policies. "I don't think racism is the motivation, but the result is to create a real danger of a racial demarcation of an underclass, which will cause Ethiopians to feel that they're being discriminated against because of race."



Ethiopian Jews, seen in a mirror behind security guard's gun, protest in Israel.

Even if racism was not the heart of the problem, the Ethiopians' anger echoed frustrations among immigrants that Israel will have to address as it moves further from the pioneering, agricultural society of its early years toward a highly competitive, Western-style society. If early immigrants were prepared to start out as menial laborers, it was because most Israelis were not much farther along economically.

### A Mirror-Image Problem

The problems of the Russian Jews have been in many ways the mirror image of those afflicting the Ethiopians — the Russians arrived with an overabundance of doctors, engineers, mathematicians and musicians, and their children have generally scored above the Israeli average in school. But their grievance is the same, that the secular and religious establishments refused to accept them as they are and for what they are, and immediately set about to make them over in the image of the sabras.

"It's a very broad problem, very common," said Natan Sharansky, the former Soviet refusenik who recently founded a political party of Russian immigrants. "Israel was created by socialist Jews from Russia who believed they knew best how Jews should live. They feel that those who arrive are a 'generation of the desert' which will disappear while their children become 'normal.' So scientists are told to grow cucumbers, they're not asked to contribute to the society. All waves of new immigrants in one way or another went through this."

Native Israelis would argue that friction is inevitable in the forming of a state from a people that has been scattered the world over for 2,000 years, and that Israel has reached a high level of development and has developed a native-born society.

But the rage of the gentile Falashas served notice that the sabras, too, must realize that "absorption" is not simply a matter of turning immigrants into their model of an Israeli as quickly as possible. "Perhaps you are not guilty (of racism)," wrote an Ethiopian, Dani Ababa, in the daily Davar Rishon, addressing his sabra friends. "But now you know the truth, or at least some part of it. If you think that from now on you'll understand our problem, let's open a new page, do an expiation rite and try to solve our problems together. If you stop showing such condescension toward us, we will stop showing such extreme emotion."



## The World

# A Duchess: Her Life In Debt

By SARAH LYALL

**LONDON** THE Duchess of York, the estranged wife of Queen Elizabeth's second son, Andrew, can't help getting into scrapes. A couple of years ago, sometime after she and the Duke separated, her financial adviser was photographed sucking her toes at an exclusive villa; the duchess was topless. In December, \$500,000 worth of diamonds given to her by her mother-in-law was stolen at Kennedy Airport because the Duchess, hurrying to board her Concorde flight home, neglected to put them in her carry-on bag (they were later recovered).

More recently, the hapless Duchess, formerly Sarah Ferguson and popularly known as Fergie, has run into trouble of a financial kind. She owes, according to the delighted British press, something between \$3 million and \$4.5 million. But whatever the figure, one thing is certain. The debts racked up by the Duchess are greater than the debts racked up by most commoners. Which leads to an obvious question. How does she do it?

### Shops Till She Drops

Clearly, it's not just a question of preferring taxis to the subway, paté to bologna or Cartier watches to those in a sidewalk vendor's attaché case. In the spendthrift spectrum, the flame-haired Duchess seems to fall somewhere between Jacqueline Onassis, who used to visit expensive stores and scoop up the same piece of clothing in every color, and Imelda Marcos, who never met a stiletto heel she didn't like.

"As soon as she is solvent, it tends to be spend, spend, spend with her," one member of the Duchess's staff told The Daily Mirror.

The Duchess herself told The Daily Express she resented the public interest in her finances: "The truth is I am making cutbacks, huge ones. But the state of my financial accounts is not anybody else's business."



Austria The Duchess of York on vacation in 1993.

Under an arcane and little-questions system, the Queen's immediate relatives have their expenses taken care of by the Government. But the Duchess holds an unusual position, neither in nor out of the family.

There is no question that her expenses are high.

### It's not easy being royal, especially when the creditors come calling.

Her house in Surrey reportedly costs \$9,000 a month just to rent. Last year the Duchess was said to have spent \$78,000 on food and drink, \$120,000 on clothes and presents and \$38,000 on laundry, plus hundreds of thousands of dollars on sundries, for a grand total of about \$81,000 a month. Her staff includes a dresser, a lady-in-waiting, two personal assistants, a butler, a cook, a nanny, a gardener and a cleaner.

She likes to travel, too. When the Duchess flew to

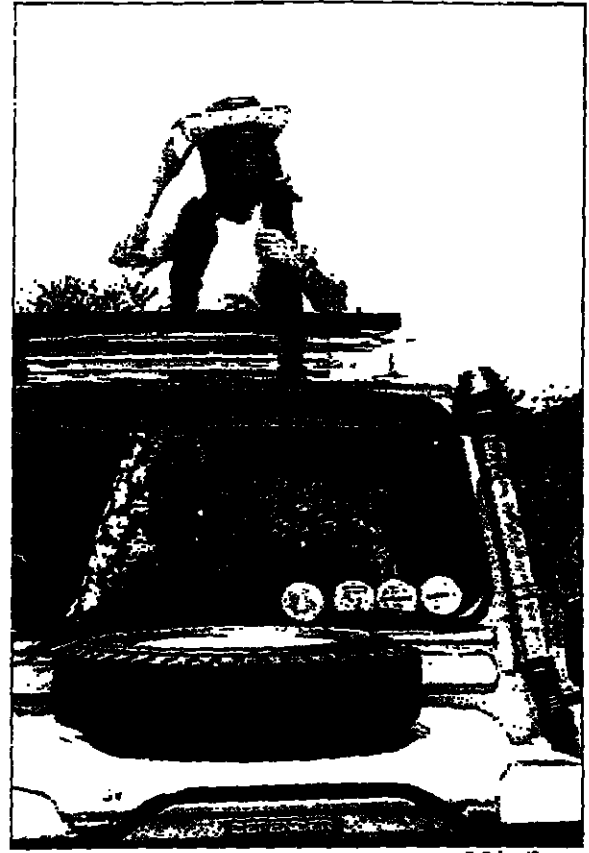


Nepal Sort of roughing it the same year.

the south of France for a six-week holiday in 1994, British newspapers quoted servants that she stayed in a \$30,000 villa and managed to drop another \$150,000 in an orgy of consumption and late-night partying with celebrities like Andrew Lloyd Weber and Roger Moore. Meanwhile, back home in Surrey, the electricity was almost turned off for nonpayment of bills.

Perhaps she feels she has to keep up appearances. The Duchess is hardly averse to handouts from hangers-on — a practice that lesser royals and those from countries that are no longer monarchies, such as Greece, indulge in constantly. But she has alienated some of her rich benefactors. One, Lily Mahtani, described as a "society hostess," took the embarrassing step last month of suing the Duchess, accusing her of paying back only \$7,500 from a \$150,000 loan meant to finance the south of France vacation.

At the moment, said Nigel Dempster, the Daily Mail's Fergie-sympathizing gossip columnist, her income consists mostly of the interest on an approximately \$750,000 separation settlement, a "personal allowance" from the Duke of \$22,000 a year and regular child-support payments for their two daughters. The Times of London reported that she makes \$150,000 a year from her "Budgie the Little Helicopter" books, the



Kenya Vacationing on safari last year.

highly rated television series and spinoff products.

"She likes rich living, and I don't see what's wrong with that," Mr. Dempster said. "She is the daughter-in-law of the Queen of England."

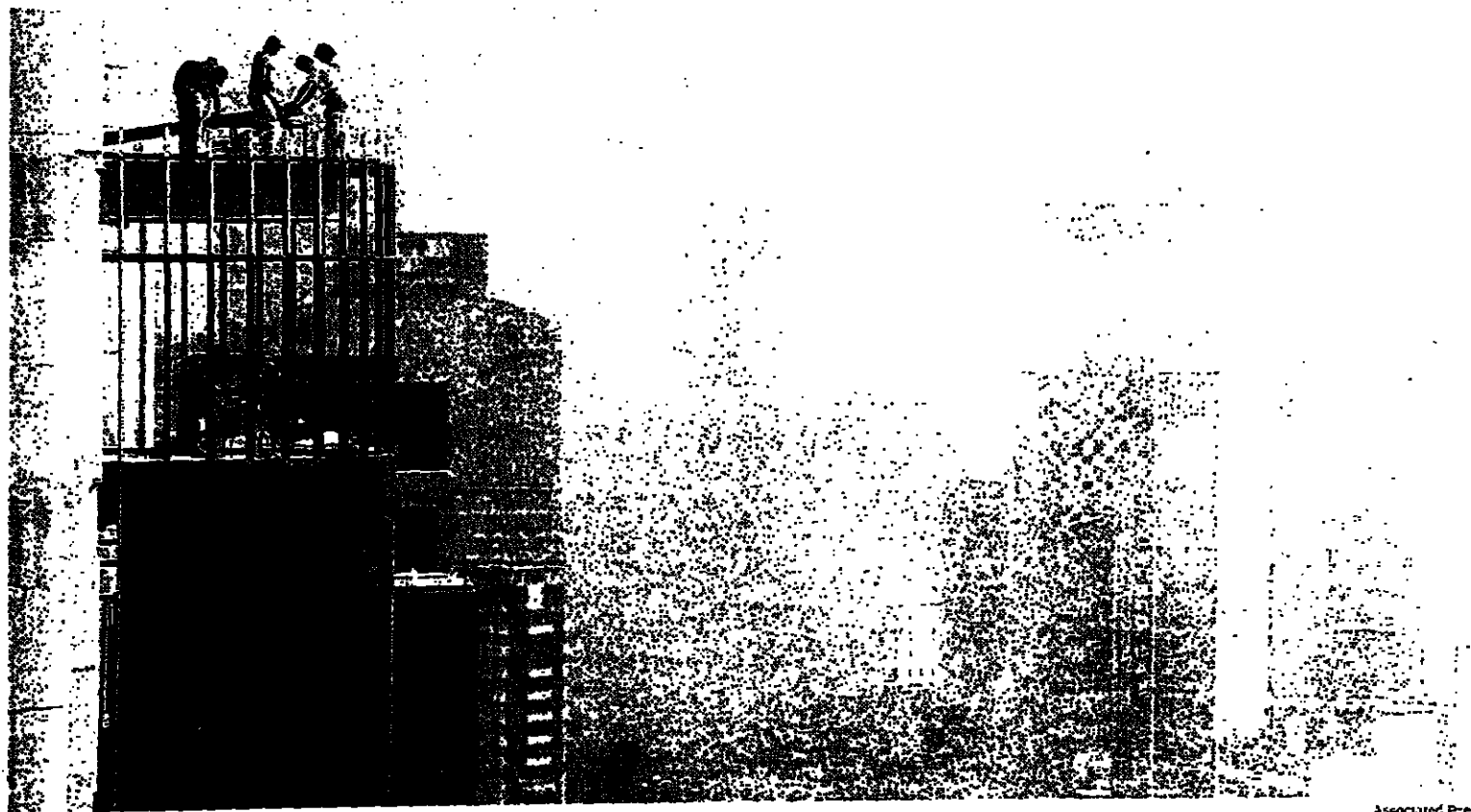
The current financial crisis — which the Duchess claims has been solved by a bailout from a trio of American businessmen who refinanced her "Budgie" package — is not the first. Two years ago, the Queen reportedly came up with \$750,000 after a bank told the Duchess to pay up, or else. When news of the Duchess's latest debts surfaced in public, the in-laws took the remarkable step of announcing they would not help her.

"The Queen has made a generous provision to the Duchess of York over a number of years," a palace spokesperson said. "Her business ventures are conducted quite separately from any royal duties, and any transactions resulting from them must be resolved between the Duchess and her business associates and creditors." The long line includes clothing shops, credit card companies and friends who have given her loans.

Recently, the Duchess of York is said to have tacked up a memo in her house, setting out a stringent regime. From now on, the memo said, the staff had to tighten its belts. No more excess! The Duchess's new spending limit: \$36,000 a month.

### Mexico's Political Inversion

## The City That Can't Fix the Air



Political stagnation helps perpetuate Mexico City's air pollution. During a pollution emergency last month, construction work continued.

By JULIA PRESTON

**THERMAL** inversion is the name of the wintertime weather event that turns the air over Mexico City into a grayish-yellow pudding of pollutants. Cold air that sinks at night becomes trapped during the day in the bowl formed by the splendid volcanoes and mountains surrounding the city. The poisons spewed out by 2.5 million cars, 360 fume-filled gas stations and thousands of dirty industries are immobilized for city residents to inhale deeply for hours on end.

A succession of unyielding thermal inversions made January especially asphyxiating. At mid-month officials declared a three-day air pollution emergency, barring half the cars in the city from driving one weekend and ordering industries to cut production 40 per cent.

Through the smog, the episode revealed with clarity another kind of trap that bedevils Mexico City — its political inversion.

Though this is a megalopolis of 18 million people, in modern times its mayors have not been elected, but rather hand-picked by the nation's President. So the city government remains a bastion of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, whose six-decade-old rule in Mexico is built on corruption and patronage. The city is a case study in government that doesn't have to answer to voters.

The people who live here have only to look at the muck out the window to see their leaders' failure. The air is much worse today than in 1986, when pollution levels exceeded Mexico's own lenient standard of acceptability on 228

days; last year the standard was broken on 324 days. (United States standards say a limit like Mexico's should not be surpassed more than one day in three years.)

"It's deceptive when they declare an emergency," said Humberto Bravo, a pollution expert at the Autonomous University of Mexico. "The reality is that we are in a pollution emergency practically every day of the year."

A decade after starting to measure pollution, the city has not done a long-term study of its impact on public health. But it did conduct a study that attributed a 165 per cent increase in pollution levels downtown to traffic jams caused by anti-government demonstrations.

A five-year-old program requires all cars to stay off the streets one day a week. It prevented a repeat of the record pollution peaks of 1992. But in a 1995 study, the city government itself questioned the usefulness of the program, which increased overall gasoline consumption by inspiring those who could afford it to buy a second vehicle. Last week the authorities said that in June they will drop the program for cars that pass emissions test.

### Fatalism

Residents weeping and wheezing from ozone intoxication responded last month with a cycle of rage and helplessness that has become familiar whenever city systems break down. In conversations, newspaper columns and street protests they railed against Mayor Oscar Espinosa Villarreal and demanded deep change. (Many dismissed the weekend driving ban as a way for policemen to make a fast fortune in bribes.) At the same time, with a sense of guilt that

has become common in Mexican political discussion, they blamed themselves for tolerating a crooked and ineffective political system. One columnist, Germán Dehesa, suggested that the government should have acted 20 years ago, and then lamented, "They didn't do it and we let them get away with not doing it." In the end the majority view seemed as fatalistic about politics as most people are about nature.

To be sure, public distress was so intense that it drew some novel official responses. The national Health Secretary, Ramón de la Fuente, went on television to report that nearly 5 million people had suffered throat, lung or eye illnesses on the emergency's first day. The state oil monopoly, Pemex, revealed that since December it had been providing Mexico City with gasoline formulated to produce less ozone.

But these actions only served to highlight the lack of more aggressive measures. Scientists say Pemex must move more quickly, and openly, to make much cleaner gasoline for the capital all year round. But the city government has shown no inclination to stand up to the powerful public petroleum giant.

City officials also lack the political independence to clean up a flagrantly corrupt exhaust inspection system. The city just received \$75 million from the World Bank for low-pollution public buses. But past programs to modernize the bus fleet failed when local unions insisted on getting inefficient minibuses, and exhaust only increased.

Next year the city will have a chance to elect its mayor for the first time. Meanwhile, residents say they can look only to another power to clean things up. Self-derisively, they call it the "Secretariat of Wind."

## Looking East For New Models

Continued from page 1

societies.

"Then, Asian governments built strong partnerships with the private sector, which ultimately served as counterweights to authoritarian power."

"Finally you have a system of ethics: In the Korean example, former heads of state were ultimately arrested because they offended some commonly held values."

Although it may sound new, today's Asian-inspired ideology is far from the continent's first experiment with paternalism, which was in part a legacy of colonialism. Africa's early leaders, from Kenya's Jomo Kenyatta and Zambia's Kenneth Kaunda to Ivory Coast's Félix Houphouët-Boigny, all demanded the virtually unquestioned obedience of the population under one-party states, which they justified by talk of Africa's traditional socialist values and its emphasis on consensus.

### Control Means Profit

Rather than help build thriving new nations, however, the lack of accountability built into these political creations favored the emergence of corrupt elites who quickly discovered that controlling the state offered unparalleled opportunities for stealing from it.

"What we are seeing today is an exact replay of what happened in the 1960's in the move toward one-party states: Maintaining the formalism of democracy while gutting it of its substance," said Thomas Callaghy, a professor of political science at the University of Pennsylvania. "What you end up with is 'crony capitalism,' an extension of the patron-client form of free enterprise, which, in the African case, has always placed the emphasis on the welfare of the patron."

With few checks on this sort of power, Africa will be hard pressed to develop under any economic model. Instead of seeing the kind of accumulation of savings necessary for an industrial takeoff — the kind of capital accumulation that took place in Asia — the continent has witnessed an unparalleled flight of capital, as elites bank their earnings in safe havens elsewhere.

According to one United Nations estimate, \$200 billion or 90 percent of the sub-Saharan part of the continent's gross domestic product (much of it illicitly earned), was shipped to foreign banks in 1991 alone.

### Guess Who Gets Rich

In each country, the formula for enrichment differs. In Senegal, World Bank officials have said that Government imports of rice, the staple food, have constituted a major

source of unaccounted-for revenue for ruling party leaders for years. In Congo, top officials and their relatives sign deals that mortgage the heavily indebted country's oil earnings years in advance, in exchange for quick cash.

In Kenya, the Government plows ahead with plans to build a major international airport in the President's home town. In military-controlled Nigeria, the Government awarded so-called "lifting contracts" to its political friends that amount to little more than gifts of handsome

### Two things that don't help: A lack of accountability and a flight of capital abroad.

commissions on oil contracts.

Based on realities like these, a confidential report prepared last year by the French Foreign Ministry warned of the "criminalization of sub-Saharan Africa" by its elites. While the ideologues of present-day Africa wish to draw out cultural parallels between the supposedly deferential masses of Asia and hordes of Africans whose salvation, they say, lies in a sort of unquestioning acceptance of a new work ethic, for many the recent news out of South Korea may inspire other observations.

Reports that two past presidents of that country amassed huge slush funds have led to dramatic confessions of corruption and the arrest of these leaders, along with those of several captains of Korean industry. This can be seen as a consequence of the lack of democracy that prevailed through much of that country's modern history.

### It Can't Happen Here

As much as some proponents of an African resurrection would like to follow Asian models, at least two elements in the recent Korean scandal stick out as inconceivable on this continent.

In the primary capitalism that still prevails in these parts, heads of industry frequently don't have any need to pay bribes to African leaders. As often as not, they are buddies, cousins and sons.

Then again, in an environment where courts are subject to political control, Parliaments act as rubber stamps, and presidents stay in power as long as they like, who could get caught?

## Ideas & Trends

# Intersexual Healing: An Anomaly Finds a Group

By NATALIE ANGIER

**H**ERMAPHRODITUS, the son of Hermes and Aphrodite, was a beautiful young man, so fetching that the nymph of the fountain of Salmacis fell desperately in love and begged the gods to merge her body with his forever. They granted the nymph her wish, forming a being half-man, half-woman.

For most of us, the idea of human hermaphrodites is likewise cloaked in myth. We may not know whether they really exist, and if they do, what that means — for them, for us, for our orderly notions of gender. When there were circus side-shows, people gawked at the "famous bearded lady" or the "incredible man-woman." After the freak shows, there were the movies — most notably Fellini's "Satyricon," in which a pale, feeble hermaphroditic youth is disrobed and shown to have both a penis and breasts.

The myths and the movies be damned: hermaphrodites are real and, if the term is taken broadly, they are everywhere among us. At least one in 2,000 babies is

Society of North America, even has the requisite homepage on the World Wide Web.

Like the deaf who resist being forced to learn to speak or to accept cochlear implants, or the dwarfs who do not want to be prenatally diagnosed out of existence, intersexuals do not want to be seen as sick or defective or in need of pity. And while none of them who were interviewed are ready to declare themselves happy and proud and none would agree to be photographed for this article, they feel they have something to say about the androgyny inherent in everyone.

### So This Is What I Am

Gathered together, a half-dozen members of the intersex society all look very different, some quite feminine, some muscular and masculine, and some of them say they are occasionally mistaken for the sex opposite to the one they were assigned as children. Their medical syndromes are all distinct, but their stories are strikingly similar. They are nearly all alienated from their families — parents and siblings alike. They blame their families for their secrecy and deep humiliation. They say nobody ever gave them direct answers. They learned about themselves by leafing through medical books and realizing with a shock, "So this is what I am." Many have had multiple and mostly unsuccessful surgeries to fix their anomalous genitals. None of them trust doctors and many refuse to seek medical help even when ill.

Above all, intersexuals object to doctors regarding cases like theirs as medical emergencies. When an infant is born with ambiguous genitals, a hospital will instantly rally its experts into a huddle — surgeons, geneticists, endocrinologists, psychiatrists — with the goal of deciding, is this really a girl or really a boy? The rationale behind the approach is that parents must be told the sex of their child as quickly as possible, lest they reject the infant as a monster. Intersexual activists believe that this crisis mentality often leads to bad medical decisions, including surgery designed to make the unusual genitals conform more closely to parental expectations.

The founder of the Intersex Society, Cheryl Chase, a 39-year-old computer consultant who lives in the Bay area, was reared as a girl and looks very much like a woman, wearing earrings and lipstick. But she is a true hermaphrodite, having been born with parts of both ovaries and testes and an organ that could be construed either as a small penis or large clitoris. When the doctors decided she was to be raised as a girl, they



Hermaphroditus, the son of Hermes and Aphrodite, melded with the nymph Salmacis.

removed the entire clitoris and the inner labia. Today, she has no sensation left in her genitals, has never experienced orgasm and feels disfigured.

She compares her situation to that of African girls who undergo female genital mutilation, but she thinks her condition is even worse. "I have become friendly with a number of African women," she said. "The difference is that women in Africa experience genital mutilation as a shared experience with everyone around them, and they would feel freakish if they didn't have it. We are isolated by this experience and made to feel like freaks because we did have it."

### What Sex Do You Sleep With?

Intersexuals are not all inorganic and not all of them are infertile, though some are so ashamed of their bodies that they have yet to seek partners. Others talk of a rich and stimulating sex life that defies definition as either straight or gay. One 32-year-old pre-medical student, whose ambiguous genitals were never surgically modified and who was raised as a girl, said she has slept with both men and women but has never had sex with another intersexual. "I'm a heterosexual in the truest sense of the word," she said.

The intersexual society is trying to persuade physi-

cians to stop treating ambiguous genitalia so aggressively. Intersexuals have no argument with medical procedures necessary for the health of the infant — for example, removing abnormal gonadal tissue that may turn cancerous. But they do object to doctors and parents making cosmetic decisions — such as making a big clitoris smaller or an unusual penis more normal — before the patient is old enough to decide.

Physicians who treat intersex infants have varying responses to the intersex society. Dr. John Gearhart, a urologist at Johns Hopkins University, dismissed its members as "zealots" and refused to discuss the organization. Dr. Heino Meyer-Bahlburg of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons said that while he sees the society as serving an essential function as a peer-support group, he thinks that intersexuals' medical conditions may lead to problems no matter what is done or not done. To blame all sorrows and complications on physicians, he said, is unfair and simplistic.

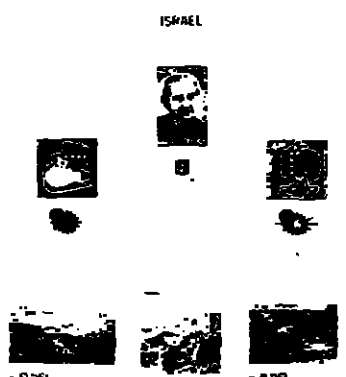
It is the unhappy ones, the disgruntled ones, doctors say, who have joined the intersex movement. Those who have had a good experience and a satisfactory outcome are unlikely to seek emotional support. To which the advocates say, if there are happy intersexuals out there, they have yet to speak up.

### When an infant is born with ambiguous genitals, doctors decide the baby's sex.

born with ambiguous external genitalia, with a small penis, say, that can't be distinguished from a large clitoris, or with a discordance between the apparent sex of the genitals and the sex of the chromosomes.

Now a small but rapidly growing number of people who were born with medical conditions that complicate the standard delivery-room broadcast of the infant's sex have organized themselves into an advocacy group. Most of them find the term hermaphrodite too freighted with medical and quasi-literary implications to be tossed around lightly. They prefer the word intersex. And if anybody is going to call them hermaphrodites, it had better be one of them. Just as gays boldly declare themselves queer, and lesbians call each other dykes, members of the intersex movement proclaim their stance in the name of their new newsletter, "Hermaphrodites with Attitude." Their organization, the Intersex

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## They're Just Regular Ruling-Class Guys

Continued from page 1

Stevenson Forbes Jr. Ross Perot, one of the world's richest men. Patrick J. Buchanan, son of Washington and member of its media elite. Senator Bob Dole, the ultimate insider. Senator Phil Gramm, another Capitol powerhouse. Lamar Alexander, businessman and corporate lawyer. Morry Taylor, the tire and wheel magnate. (Not to mention Bill Clinton of Hope, Ark., Yale and Oxford.)

Rush Limbaugh, who turned himself into a millionaire by playing Mr. Populist to his listeners and viewers, recently warned them against taking potshots at Mr. Forbes. "We're taking the whole issue away from our side," Mr. Limbaugh said, "if we're going to criticize wealth."

There is nothing new about rich people in politics. George Washington was rich. But the most successful politicians among the fabulously wealthy — Roosevelts and Rockefellers and Kennedys — appealed to poor and working-class people by promoting government programs for the disadvantaged. Now candidates are promoting economic conservatism as the new definition of populism. The circle has been closed — Mr. Forbes has defined himself by attacking the graduated income tax that the first populists championed.

"The Government has fallen into such a state of disrepute that politicians want to pick up on an anti-statist feeling in the country," said Prof. Jamin B. Raskin of the American University law school, an expert on money in politics. "So populism becomes a catch-all label for anyone who challenges the political system. Every politician tries to pick up the chord of populism but in that sense the word begins to lose meaning."

Rich-guy populism does seem to require certain ritual obeisances to the lives of ordinary folk. George Bush made a display of eating pork rinds. Mr. Forbes stood out last week when he showed up at a black-tie Congressional dinner in a business suit. Mr. Buchanan sheds his starched white shirt (he shed his Mercedes when he ran in 1992) for down-home garb as he ralls against the Washington establishment, upon which he built a lucrative career. Mr. Alexander campaigns in a plaid work shirt.

### 'Richie Rich'

Despite their own hefty bank accounts, Mr. Forbes's opponents cannot resist digs. Mr. Gramm mocks him as "Richie Rich," and Mr. Dole calls him "Malcolm." But they don't suggest any contradiction between his background or program and his profession of the populist faith. "If I were going to go back and choose parents again, I might choose rich parents," Mr. Gramm said. Mr. Gramm, like all politicians, is well aware that while middle- and low-income voters may be economically insecure, they don't blame the rich for their predicament. Many agree with the supply-side advocates that loosening Government restrictions on business is just what the nation needs to

climb out of economic malaise.

Polls last week showed that Mr. Forbes is neck-and-neck with Mr. Dole in New Hampshire, the first primary state, and is popular among middle-income and independent voters. In dozens of random interviews in New Hampshire and Iowa, most voters, including Democrats, said they liked Mr. Forbes's outsider message and his willingness to spend his own money, since it showed he could not be bought by special interests.

"I'm more impressed because he's trying to do it with his own money," said Bruce Bowman, 38, a small-businessman from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, after a Forbes speech.

Even anti-Forbes voters see nothing peculiar about the confluence of wealth and populism. Barbara Bingham, a 61-year-old homemaker from Nashua, N.H., who plans to vote for Mr. Dole, said of Mr. Forbes, "I dislike him intensely." But when asked if he was trying to buy the race, Mrs. Bingham replied: "That doesn't bother me. I think he's sincere in what he says about populist

### Supply-siders call themselves populists, and voters concur.

things even if he has not experienced them."

That kind of sentiment was central to the success of Mr. Perot, who put \$62 million of his own money into an independent run for President in 1992. Others followed suit.

"Michael was definitely running as a populist," said Arianna Huffington, an outspoken conservative whose husband, Michael, spent \$29 million and came close to winning a Senate seat from California in 1994. "He had tremendous support from blue-collar workers, from Reagan Democrats."

Mrs. Huffington argued that voters have been more critical of wealthy Republicans than of wealthy Democrats. "Republicans spending their own money becomes a bigger issue because Republicans are supposed to be for the rich and Democrats are supposed to care for the poor," she said. "It's part of a stereotype the G.O.P. needs to shake."

There are similarities between the populists of today and their 19th century counterparts. Mr. Buchanan comes closest, complaining about large corporations and warning of too many immigrants. Mr. Forbes sometimes sounds like an original populist when he attacks the financial takeover of the political parties by money interests.

Still, it is hard to picture the scion of the Forbes publishing empire repeating what William Jennings Bryan said in a speech in Chicago 100 years ago when his Democratic Party embraced populism: "If I had behind me the great trusts and combinations, I know that I would no sooner take my seat than they would demand that I use my power to rob the people in their behalf."



FILM

# Their Feet in Texas, Their Heads in the Clouds

By JEFF SILVERMAN

**W**E kind of liked 'The Godfather' and those Scorsese movies, and we started out trying to do kind of a gritty movie," explained Owen C. Wilson of the script that five years later became the movie "Bottle Rocket."

Then reality bit. "We weren't tough guys," Mr. Wilson cheerfully acknowledged, referring to himself and his fellow Texan, Wes Anderson, with whom he wrote the script. "We didn't have the background to do a tough-guy movie." So they made "Bottle Rocket" instead.

"Bottle Rocket" has all the components of a hard-to-get-made, hard-to-release, independent first feature. But looks can be deceiving. The film's executive producer is James L. Brooks, the Oscar-winning writer, director and producer of "Terms of Endearment" and "Broadcast News." And "Bottle Rocket" is being released by Columbia Tri-Star Motion Pictures. The studio had planned to open the film this Friday in 30 theaters but decided last week to delay the opening until Feb. 23, which will help it steer clear of "Broken Arrow," a multimillion-dollar John Woo action film starring John Travolta that opens on Friday and is expected to attract huge audiences.

Normally a studio the size of Columbia would not be fretting over the best date to open a movie in 30 theaters. But "Bottle Rocket," a virtually starless little movie with an impossibly low \$5 million budget, has managed to get and to keep Columbia's attention over a long gestation period.

"Bottle Rocket," which stars Mr. Wilson, 27, and was directed by Mr. Anderson, 26, follows a trio of misguided, middle-class fellows who, under the tutelage of a mentor in crime, try to pull off a petty heist. Their aim is modest, and they make more noise than anything else, hence the title.

"Bottle rockets are these cheap little fireworks that only go about 40 feet up, and they make a little pop," Mr. Anderson said. "But that's all

you expect from them."

The movie, set on Mr. Wilson's and Mr. Anderson's home turf of Dallas, is a comedy caper with Generation X overtones, yet it flies none of the usual pop-culture flags that such films usually wave. There is no sex or real violence and no star power in the lead roles. Its angst is coddled rather than hard-boiled à la Tarantino.

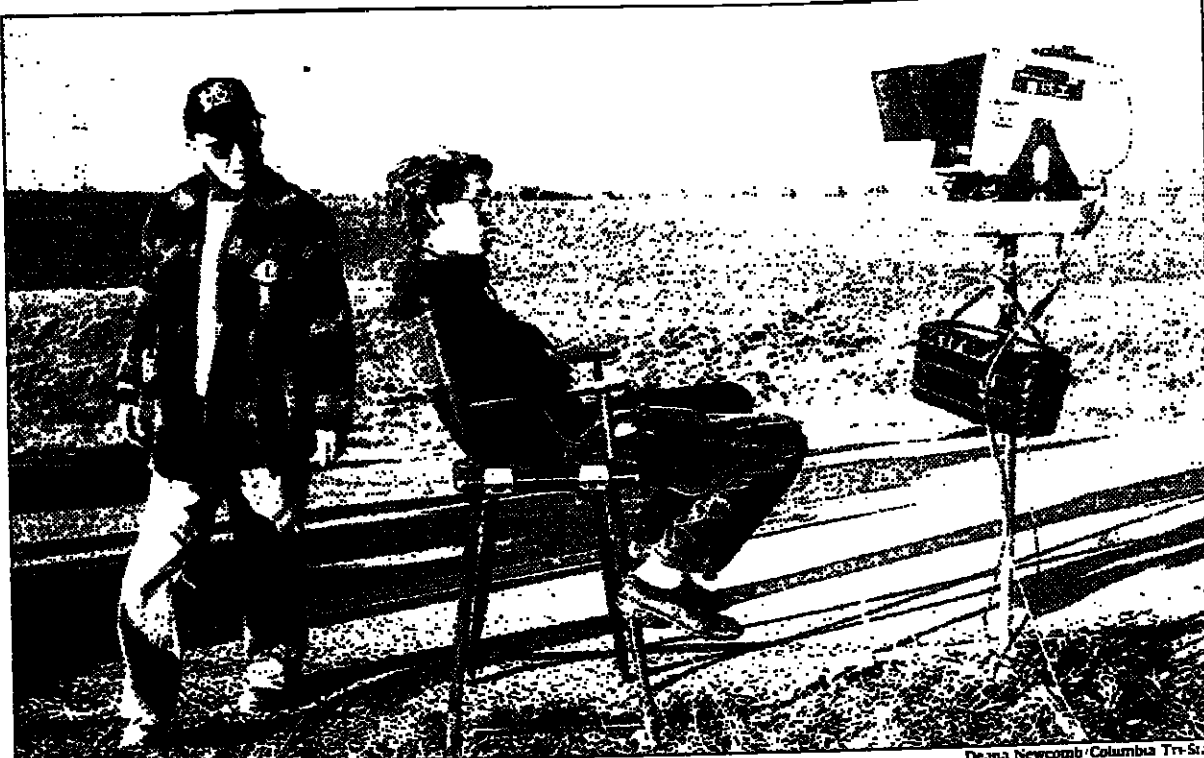
Mr. Wilson plays Dignan, the group's flamboyant leader, who fills a notebook with improbable schemes and plans for the next 50 years. Mr. Wilson's younger brother,

**'All of the sudden we had \$5 million to make our movie. It seemed insane.'**

Luke, co-stars as the more quietly introspective Anthony, who is first seen breaking out of a mental hospital. To keep things almost all in the family, the older Wilson brother, Andrew, also has a small part. And Bob, the third member of the criminal trio, is played by Robert Musgrave, a close friend of both the Wilsons and Mr. Anderson. (Lumi Cavazos, the star of "Like Water for Chocolate," is Ar. Anthony's unconventional love interest.)

Dignan, Anthony and Bob are not the kind of guys to sit in front of the tube inhaling life lessons from "Friends." "They would idolize the guys in 'Heat,'" Owen Wilson said, "except they hadn't seen the movie yet."

It was enthusiasm, energy and vitality, much of it naively misplaced, that turned "Bottle Rocket" into a short film in 1992. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Anderson, who had met in a playwriting class at the University of Texas at Dallas, were sharing an



Polly Platt, left, a producer of "Bottle Rocket," with the director Wes Anderson during filming in Texas.

apartment when they decided to make a movie. Their original plan was to shoot a 16-millimeter black-and-white feature. Thirteen minutes of film and \$10,000 later, they were broke. So they decided to call what they had of "Bottle Rocket" a short and submit it to the Sundance Film Festival, where it was shown in 1993. "People seemed to like it and think it was funny," Mr. Wilson remembered. But nobody handed over cash to help them make a full-length movie. They returned to Dallas, wondering what was going to happen next.

Enter Hollywood in the person of Polly Platt and Mr. Brooks.

The screenwriter L. M. Kit Carson, a friend of the Wilson family, had sent the "Bottle Rocket" script and a video of the short to the producer Barbara Boyle, who in turn sent the material to Ms. Platt. Ms. Platt, a successful producer and production designer, was then the executive vice president of Gracie Films,

and Mr. Brooks's production company. Under an arrangement with Columbia Pictures, the studio had agreed to finance a low-budget feature of Mr. Brooks's choice. When Ms. Platt found "Bottle Rocket," she knew she had the movie.

"I had never read anything like it," she said. "It was filled with such wry, self-deprecating humor. I shoved it in Jim's face. Then he looked at the short. It was a miracle. He shared my enthusiasm."

Mr. Brooks said: "It had rhythms I had never seen before. It just broke me up. It had such a sense of the ridiculous. And it had such a great selling point: You never saw any of these guys before."

So Mr. Brooks and Ms. Platt flew to Dallas to meet the two young men behind it.

"He came by our apartment, and I think he was shocked by our living conditions," Owen Wilson said of Mr. Brooks. "I think that actually helped us. I think he thought: 'If I don't make this movie, what's going to happen to these guys? They're hanging by a thread.'"

To transform their short into a full-fledged feature, Owen Wilson

and Mr. Anderson moved to Los Angeles and spent 18 months cutting and rewriting their script. "There were some hard times," Mr. Brooks admitted. "Wes is very opinionated and very stubborn. And Owen, who does not think the same way as Wes, is also stubborn. All I could do was point to what I saw were problems and press for solutions. The process could get very emotional."

When the script was ready (having lost, according to Mr. Brooks, "everything that was similar to any other generational film"), there was never any question that the Wilson brothers would reprise the roles they had played in the short and that Mr. Anderson would direct. But Columbia wanted a recognizable name in one small role: the mentor in crime, Mr. Henry.

"At first," said Ms. Platt, "the boys wanted a director — Quentin Tarantino, Oliver Stone or Peter Bogdanovich — for the part, which is kind of perfect, because Mr. Henry is a hero to the characters and directors are heroes to the boys." (Mr. Bogdanovich is also Ms. Platt's former husband.) Instead, James Caan

At this point Columbia made its commitment to the project. "Sometimes, you take a shot on a little movie like this," said Mark Canton, the chairman of Columbia. "You always like to see if you can, in effect, catch lightning in a bottle." Or even in a "Bottle Rocket."

Mr. Anderson said: "All of a sudden we had \$5 million to make our movie. It seemed insane."

Did he know how to spend \$5 million?

"Fortunately," he said, "they provided a number of people to assist us in that task. They find ways to spend it. Like \$1.5 million goes into overhead. For movies this small, it's a lot more economical to make them independently."

After a 45-day shoot and an extended post-production period (and going, in fact, somewhat over budget), the completed film was ready to be shown. But the initial reaction at test screenings was mixed.

"It was unbelievable," said Ms. Platt. "People didn't like it. But Wes would pull out all the good cards, and we could tell by the handwriting that the people who wrote those were the smart ones."

After further adjustments, the film was submitted to the 1996 Sundance festival, which ended last weekend.

"We wanted them to have it," said Mr. Brooks. "It started there. What a nice end to the story it would have been."

Instead, it was rejected.

"We were crushed," said Mr. Wilson.

"It's a strange world," Mr. Brooks said, noting that the Sundance festival acted like a Hollywood studio in turning down what he considered a small, quirky film.

Still, "Bottle Rocket" had a release date, and it got some good early reviews. Despite the snub at Sundance, it had friends in high places.

With their first movie about to be released and their expectations high, Mr. Anderson and Owen Wilson hope to keep the entire group behind "Bottle Rocket" together as a Texas-bred movie-making company.

"We'd like to call ourselves something like Venture Global Productions," Mr. Anderson said. "Or the Rockefeller Brothers. Or maybe just U.S. Steel!"

## Films Ask: Shall We Dance?

By NANCY GOLDNER

**D**ANCING sways the soul before the brain can get a word in. It is the perfect language of seduction. Choreographers have always known this, but film directors are increasingly discovering dancing — social dancing — as a sure way to steer couples into the bedroom. Stirring and exposing feelings so quickly, dancing pre-empt the brain's job of weighing the evidence and making judgments.

If they had second thoughts, the gum-toting police detective and the Amish woman in "Witness" would never dare to fall in love; nor would the married woman and the roving photographer in "The Bridges of Madison County." But dancing precludes second thoughts for these couples, as it does for the about-to-be-divorced twosome in "Something to Talk About."

In these and several other recent films, including the new "White Squall," dancing is not choreographed by the likes of an Astaire. Rather, it is arranged by the director as a means to an end. With the exception of "Something to Talk About," none of the recent films make dancing paramount; camera work can transmit a romantic message as forcefully as the dancers' steps, and the steps themselves are rudimentary. You and I could do them, with perhaps just a lesson or two at Arthur Murray under our belts.

In "The American President," the widowed President and the lobbyist he might woo clinch their love pact while waltzing around the White House dining room during a state dinner, but the camera whirls even faster than they do. It's the camera's dancing that creates the heady feeling of romance, and it's the camera's close scrutiny of the couple's faces that creates the slightly dangerous sensation of romance unfolding in a fishbowl. In the 1985 film "Witness," starring Harrison Ford and Kelly McGillis, the detective guides his damsel in a stop-and-start Lindy in a barn, while a golden oldie plays on the radio. The jumpiness of the camera expresses their sexual tension more than the conventional close-ups of the actors' tremulous faces.

The dancing couple in "The Bridges of Madison County" simply sway, while in "Waiting to Exhale" and in "The Untouchables" they are absolutely static except for their hands. In this non-dance scene in a cocktail lounge, all we see are her hands slipping around his neck and his hands pressing into her lower back. Although it's hard to find a justification for this extreme camera angle, the scene does define what dancing is in the movies: it is people



Jeff Bridges waltzes Caroline Goodall in "White Squall."

touching with music and without speech.

Speechlessness is, of course, normal in concert dance, but in the movies it is out of the ordinary and thus a powerful ally of seduction. In "The Bridges of Madison County," Robert Kincaid and Francesca (Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep) at first exchange intimacies by exchanging stories about their past. Robert protests the effort to reveal himself with words. They do much better at the intimacy game by swaying together in a tight hug alongside the kitchen table while Johnny Hartman croons on the radio. There is no talk; there are just their heads buried in each other's neck and the camera hugging them as they hug each other. Out of these images comes the summation of the movie's theme: about a love so hermetic that it can survive death. When this love is unearched by Francesca's children, it is like a perfectly preserved archeological artifact that transforms their lives.

The dance scene in "Something to Talk About," a movie released last fall, is as raucous as the one in "Bridges" is hushed. Eddie (Dennis Quaid), the two-timing anthero, wants to reconcile with his wife, Grace (Julia Roberts). He's about to go into a long explanation about how the hunch with his divorce lawyer was all a mistake, then he chuckles the narrative. "Come on, baby, let's dance," he bellows at Grace and, dragging her by the arm onto the clubhouse dance floor, seduces her into a reconciliation by dancing her down memory lane.

At first, Grace resists twirling under his arm and is embarrassed by his loose, goofy moves. But she can't resist the power of "muscle memory." She twirls. Then he leads her farther back in time, to the happy days when they practiced dance routines in the den. One-two-three-kick, right knee up, left knee up. Whether she likes it or not, here is Grace moving in instinctive harmony with

the man she loathes.

Now the dance moves into freer territory. Taking off his jacket and warmed by champagne, Eddie spins her and throws her and dips her to the ground. They dance solo, roaming into free-form, no-man's-land soliloquies and couple up again. By now, Grace doesn't know what has hit her, and she doesn't much care. She just rolls with the punches and, supported by intuition and practice, stays in step. By dancing, Grace discovers that she and Eddie are still very much married.

Seduction is the most natural use of dancing, but in several films dancing serves different ends. In "White Squall" and in the 1992 film "Scent of a Woman," for example, the directors use it to show the audience a new aspect of the protagonists' character.

"White Squall" is about the tragic sea voyage of a brigantine in which six people drown in a storm. Having lost his wife in the squall, the skipper Christopher Sheldon (Jeff Bridges) stands to lose his professional credentials as well during a tribunal that takes place following the disaster. He is saved by his surviving crew, all of them teen-age boys, who grew to love him during the voyage and now testify in his behalf.

For this turn of events to be credible, the audience must love Sheldon too, which is no easy task. Sheldon is one of those tough old salts who teaches his young crew by humiliating them and, in one case, endangering a boy's life. The film's director, Ridley Scott, shows the audience Sheldon's soft side by having him waltz with his wife at a marina restaurant in the Caribbean. "Sometimes you act halfway normal," his wife says as they twirl around. He grins and agrees, and so does the charmed audience.

Something similar happens in "Scent of a Woman." Until the tango scene at a New York hotel, the film's blind hero, Lieut. Col. Frank Slade, retired (Al Pacino), is thoroughly obnoxious. Then he asks a young woman to tango and guides her with precise, deliberate steps, careful changes between languid and sharp moves, and delicate pressure applied to various points on her back so she can follow his lead with ease.

The main point of the scene, under Martin Brest's direction, is not that Slade is a good dancer but that he is a marvelous teacher. In a flash the audience understands that this confirmed curmudgeon cares for people, particularly young people whom he can mentor in the ways of life — be it dancing or standing up for their rights. The tango scene sets the stage for the movie's climax, in which Slade lectures the students at a prestigious but corrupt prep school on honor and honesty and gets a standing ovation. The tango is the narrative turning point of the movie.

### WITH COMPLIMENTS

By DAVID J. KAHN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

**ACROSS**

- 1 Deception
- 5 "This Gun for Hire" star, 1942
- 9 Fires
- 13 Story, sometimes
- 18 White-spotted rodent
- 19 "O.K."
- 20 Cowboy's lasso
- 22 Bringing ruin
- 23 Compliment for Ken Griffey Jr.?
- 25 Killer whales
- 26 Bigger than big
- 27 Volunteer's words
- 28 Air conditioner abbr.
- 29 Compliment for Mickey Rooney?
- 31 Compliment for Frankenstein's monster?
- 34 Disinclined
- 35 Unsteady on one's feet
- 36 Not beyond
- 39 School founded in 1440
- 43 Dig in
- 45 Missile launcher
- 47 First name in TV comedy
- 48 Brief
- 49 Classical meeting sites
- 52 Block houses?
- 54 Pacify
- 57 Board game from India: Var.
- 60 "At Seventeen" singer: Janis
- 61 10-stringed lyre
- 62 Kind of center
- 63 Attack
- 64 Expect
- 65 Sum total
- 67 Compliment for Wyatt Earp?
- 70 Noted Corsican family name
- 73 "The Crying Game" actor
- 74 Bartender's supply
- 76 Mirror
- 77 "...the calmly gathered thought": Whitlir
- 78 "Roll — bones"
- 79 Capable of changing
- 82 Queen's Cup, e.g.
- 84 French wine center
- 86 Rush hour shortage
- 87 — Fox
- 88 — Japanese War
- 90 Hamelin helper
- 93 Kind of brain
- 94 Reliever's goal
- 95 Computer access code
- 97 The time being
- 100 Testifies
- 102 Compliment for E.T.?
- 106 Compliment for Alessandro Volta?
- 111 Hotel ending

**DOWN**

- 1 Indulge
- 2 "— talk?" (comedy line)
- 3 Chemical catalysts
- 4 "The Song of the Earth" composer
- 5 Canadian pol. label
- 6 Clear —
- 7 Fourth in a series
- 8 Fooling
- 9 Puts pressure on
- 10 Yorkshire river
- 11 Ocean compound
- 12 Played for time
- 13 Under way
- 14 Debut at Turin, 2/1/1896
- 15 Particular
- 16 Low
- 17 TV's "— Three Lives"
- 21 Compliment for Mary Lou Retton?
- 24 Glamour rival
- 30 W.W. II heroes: Abbr.
- 32 Men
- 33 Spin
- 37 Caddie's offering
- 38 Composer — Pres
- 40 Miss topper
- 41 Attack
- 42 Family reunion member
- 43 Psychic's field
- 44 — standstill
- 46 Name add-on
- 50 — part (role-plays)
- 51 Olympics event
- 53 Ribbon holder of song
- 55 Bassanio's love
- 56 Take for oneself
- 58 Off-base
- 59 Compliment for the Marquis de Sade?
- 61 Before the present
- 64 Archeological datum
- 65 "So!"
- 66 Actress Scacchi
- 68 "Am — blame?"
- 69 Minor-league, maybe
- 70 Zingers
- 71 Milieu of 99-Down
- 72 Israeli region
- 75 Sales tax in some states
- 76 Lateen-rigged boat
- 79 Its scientific name is Naja haje
- 80 Go (for)
- 81 That: Sp.
- 83 Sunken spaces
- 84 Hosp. personnel
- 85 Assisted, in a way
- 89 Practices totalitarianism
- 91 Commit
- 92 Down Under boulder
- 95 — favor
- 96 Hans Christian Andersen's birthplace
- 98 Litter-free
- 99 "Master Class" subject
- 101 Sells by machine
- 103 Frasier of 50's-60's tennis
- 104 — nothing of
- 105 Dispatch
- 106 Code word for "A"
- 107 Conceal, as a card
- 108 Kind of pipe
- 109 Racketeer's org.?
- 110 Request
- 116 Nice article

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SLOP HERE VESTAL ANF  
HYDE ALERT ELTORO LEO  
ARIA CLEAR REAGAN TAR  
HENRY KISSINGER BECALN  
TENSE BUE DISTARI  
SCARNE BUD DECO  
NINETYPERCENT OF WOPD  
TITEL EXIN DILLY FLUDE  
PEL STAB BUTE DIBIT  
SNAIL STIGA HONETS  
THE POLITICAL ANSVIETE  
RACINE WANT ARLES  
ANODE CITE STUB ODO  
BOLES DISH SEAM ASPEN  
PIERS OTHERTERPERCENT  
MESSY AID LEANTO  
INFANTE PIR SLANT  
BUNTY AADREPUTATION  
ELN INAMAR ELENTI EDGE  
ATE AIRING DINGO ROLE  
RED LEASES EDEN SLEB



# The New York Times

Founded in 1851

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## Sleepless in Albany

Gov. George Pataki is lying awake at night worrying about his budget problems. It turns out that he has imprudently assumed nearly \$2 billion in savings for the next year, to be derived from a budget deal in Washington that may never occur. After resting in the Caribbean, Mr. Pataki journeys to Capitol Hill today to join other governors for an uphill push for a budget accord that would help bail many states out of financial problems similar to New York's. His mission will not succeed unless he demands more concessions on Medicaid and other issues from his fellow Republicans.

For all of last year, Mr. Pataki watched silently while some New York Republicans served the interests of Newt Gingrich more than those of their state. G.O.P. stalwarts like Susan Molinari of Staten Island, Bill Paxton of suburban Buffalo, Gerald Solomon of the Hudson Valley and Daniel Frisa of Long Island voted for a range of programs that punished New York, particularly welfare and Medicaid changes. Senator Alfonse D'Amato, working with Senator Daniel Moynihan, at least managed to improve the Medicaid reimbursement formula and provide \$1.3 billion in relief for New York. But that measure was vetoed, properly, by President Clinton because of its other harsh spending cuts and overly generous giveaways for the well-to-do.

Until the last few days, the dream of a grand compromise on the Federal budget seemed dead. But now some deal-hungry moderates in both parties have been meeting among themselves to salvage something. They are joined by a small bipartisan group of governors led by John Engler of Michigan, a Republican known for his advocacy of welfare and Medicaid reform. Both Newt Gingrich and the White House have dropped hints of possible support. For example, there is talk of a much smaller tax cut than either the White House or the Republicans have supported. A smaller tax cut might allow for smaller spending cuts — and, thus, more Federal money for hard-pressed states.

## The Future of Taiwan

With the cold war over and the nations of East Asia booming, arguments over the status of Taiwan might seem the relics of another era. Sadly, they are not. A sudden surge of Chinese belligerence toward Taiwan has made the island one of the most volatile issues facing America and the world. Before the issue turns into a dangerous crisis, political leaders in Beijing, Washington and Taipei need to step back from confrontational policies and put Taiwan back into perspective.

For the better part of a year, China has been campaigning against attempts by Taiwan's President, Lee Teng-hui, to win back some of the international recognition that Taiwan lost two decades ago when most of the world accepted Beijing's claim to be the legal Government of China. The mainland has conducted military maneuvers and missile tests off the island's coast to pressure Mr. Lee.

China should end this intimidation at once. Politicians in Taipei should stop indulging their voters and provoking the mainland with symbolic campaigns for international recognition and concentrate instead on building and protecting the freedoms and autonomy that Taiwan already enjoys.

Congressional Republicans, for their part, should refrain from inflammatory gestures like inviting Taiwanese leaders to Washington. Such official invitations call into question America's commitment to recognize only one China. The Clinton Administration must calmly, firmly and consistently remind Beijing that America's one China commitment is explicitly premised on the mainland's peaceful conduct toward Taiwan.

Taiwan is now neither an independent country nor a province governed by Beijing. After Chiang Kai-shek lost the Chinese civil war in 1949, he fled to Taiwan with his supporters and grandiosely proclaimed his administration the Government of all

China. For cold war reasons, the United States went along with this fiction until 1979, when it shifted American recognition to the Communist regime in Beijing. That left Taiwan in diplomatic limbo, since Beijing insisted that any country recognizing the mainland regime break relations with Taiwan.

There increasingly is a case to be made for Taiwanese independence. Taiwan has not been ruled by China for most of the last century. It has a different political and economic system and its people enjoy a freedom and affluence many rightly fear could not survive under Communist rule.

But at least for now the costs of pressing for independence would exceed the potential gains. The most obvious cost is the very real risk of Chinese military attack. A showdown now over Taiwanese independence would also almost surely bring a rupture in relations between the United States and China. Given China's huge population, nuclear status and rapidly developing economy, such a crisis would have global implications.

Beijing, Taipei and Washington should lower the volume of the debate and avoid forcing issues that are best left alone for now. Beijing should stop flaunting its preparations for imminent military action. Taipei should stop pretending it can somehow redefine its international status without provoking a reaction from Beijing. The White House and Congressional leaders should agree to jointly counsel restraint on both sides of the Taiwan Strait.

Such a formula would allow Taiwan to hold on to and develop what it cares about most — its freer, more prosperous way of life. It would allow Beijing to coexist with Taiwan without forfeiting its claims to eventual sovereignty. It would give American political leaders of both parties a chance to help preserve Taiwan's freedoms without wrecking relations with Beijing.

## Ending Farm Welfare

Congress may be squandering a rare chance to end welfare for farmers as the United States has known it for half a century. A Republican bill to wean farmers from subsidies and move them toward a market-based system has been stalled by Senate and House Democrats and threatened with a Presidential veto. It deserves Democratic support.

The Agricultural Marketing Transition Act, sometimes called the "freedom to farm" bill, would scrap Federal subsidy programs that reward farmers for not planting. Its sponsors recognize that the subsidies, which began as aid to the Depression-racked breadbasket, have long been a program of bloated benefits that prop up food prices. Budget austerity and a spreading antipathy toward welfare for businesses and the well-off have combined to bring farm reform bills to the House and Senate floors.

Under the plan a series of annual fixed but declining payments would let farmers plant the crops of their choice while easing the shock of changing land values now pegged to subsidy entitlements. Those transitional payments are a form of welfare but they enable government and agriculture to normalize the industry by the year 2002.

Both houses approved this act as part of the overall budget reconciliation bill, but after the measure was vetoed, the farm bill came back. It

seems to have enough House votes for passage. In a nearly party-line vote, the bill fell seven votes short of debate-ending cloture in the Senate, sending both parties into negotiations that could water down the Senate version.

The White House may see political gain with farm states in raising objections to the bill, mainly complaints that rural development programs and other largesse are too severely cut, but the national interest calls for bipartisan cooperation to end decades of subservience to farm lobbyists. Even the politics are changing as farmers realize the subsidy pie is rapidly shrinking.

There is, however, a section of the House proposal that would injure consumers and has no place in a deregulatory bill. The dairy lobby has proposed setting high price supports for milk and cheese as well as imposing new consumer standards that would not improve nutrition or taste but would add mightily to consumer costs. The dairy provisions would add as much as 40 cents per gallon to the price of milk and cost consumers perhaps an extra \$2 billion a year. The bill also leaves huge subsidies to sugar growers and peanut farms in place.

This bill may not dismantle Federal subsidies overnight, but if the dairy provisions are removed, it would constitute a good start and should be approved by Congress.

## Prayer Wasn't Issue in Child's Wrongful Death

To the Editor:

Stephen L. Carter (Op-Ed, Jan. 31), lamenting the Supreme Court's decision not to review the tort liability of a Christian Science mother for killing her child, pushes his anti-religious case too far.

Neither the Supreme Court nor the Minnesota Supreme Court, whose decision was in question, denied the power of prayer. They merely held that a parent who negligently refuses to provide medical care for her child is liable for wrongful death if, as a result of her negligence, the child dies.

The defendant mother said that she should not be liable because she believed, in good faith, that prayer would heal the child. She has a right to believe that, but she has no right to inflict the costs of her belief on the child or his father.

Holding the mother and her supportive Christian Science practitioners responsible for the damages they inflicted is squarely in line with our religious tradition. The defendants were held liable because they negligently thought that praising the Lord — ignoring the "ammunition" of med-

ical science — was their exclusive duty to the sick child. The mother should have thought of herself as a mother first, and a believer second.

It is true, as Mr. Carter claims, that we all have a right to educate our children in the religion of our choice, but it does not take much of a lawyer to see the difference between educating a child and making decisions that endanger the life or health of another person. GEORGE P. FLETCHER, Cardozo Professor of Jurisprudence, Columbia University School of Law, New York, Jan. 31, 1996

## Rights, Ethics and a Chimp With AIDS

To the Editor:

Re "Infected With Human Virus, a Chimpanzee Develops AIDS" (news article, Jan. 31): Chimpanzees should not suffer in the name of science. Chimps are the closest relative to the human species, both part of the great ape family. This chimp had the right to live free from the illness he has been subjected to.

Some of the world's most distinguished ethicists, professors and anthropologists, including Jane Goodall, have signed a statement against such unethical experiments. Their Declaration on Great Apes demands that nonhuman apes — chimps, gorillas and orangutans — be treated with the same moral principles and rights as human beings.

The statement says that all apes have the right to life, the protection of individual liberty and a life free from torture.

AIDS is a terrible disease. I lost a close friend to it. But nothing warrants sacrificing the liberty of one living, feeling, thinking being for another. SIMON CHAITOWITZ, Seattle, Feb. 1, 1996

To the Editor:

After reflection, it occurs that a true memorial to the 23 beloved pri-



Igor Kopehinsky

mates that died in a fire at the Philadelphia Zoo would be support for the groups working against time to preserve and protect the diminishing population of wild apes. Let us remember that tragedies like that fire occur every day as we cut and burn rain forest habitats in Africa and Southeast Asia, pushing the primates toward extinction. ANN LEVINE, Orangutan Foundation International, New York, Jan. 29, 1996

## Gay Editor's Transfer Rests on a Lie

To the Editor:

Re "A Texas Paper in a Dispute Over Gay Editor" (Business Day, Jan. 29), on The Fort Worth Star-Telegram's transfer of an openly gay editor from the weekly children's section based on a reader's complaint:

The American Family Association, with which the complaining reader was associated, and the religious right have become expert at promoting the big lie that gay men and lesbians pose a sexual threat to children.

Despite the publicity surrounding cases involving teachers, priests and other authority figures who have been accused of molesting young

people, the vast majority of molestation is perpetrated by heterosexual adults, according to a number of studies.

Child abuse experts cite statistics showing that children are most at risk from sexual predators within their own families, particularly if a stepparent is present.

But the American Family Association doesn't allow facts to get in the way. Its arguments have often borne fruit in anti-gay referendums, restrictive child adoption policies and, in some communities, a prohibition against gay volunteers for programs like Big Brother and Big Sister. KEVIN FARRELL, San Francisco, Jan. 29, 1996

## Weep for Sri Lanka

To the Editor:

Born in Sri Lanka to a Sinhalese mother and a Tamil father, I mourn the news that a truck-bomb explosion attributed to Tamil rebels killed dozens of people in Colombo's financial district (front page, Feb. 1).

As a minority, the Tamils have major grievances that must be addressed.

My father's solution was to migrate to Australia in 1974, part of an exodus of Tamil professionals.

The not-so-fortunate, or perhaps more patriotic, stayed on. The violence by the Tamil rebels will only destroy their country.

This ethnic problem, which goes back centuries, is too embroiled to be solved by the Sri Lankans themselves. Only foreign mediation can help. E. D. RAJANAYAGAM-ROTH, Sagaponack, L.I., Feb. 1, 1996

## Anarchy in America?

To the Editor:

Thomas L. Friedman (column, Jan. 28) suggests that Africa is "a freshman Republican's paradise" because there are no taxpayers that finance a welfare state: that "in Rwanda and Burundi, no one is asked to pay for Head Start," and that, instead, the Tutsi and the Hutu revert to genocide "to grab more resources."

Does Mr. Friedman really believe that 8 percent increases in Medicare spending mean civilization in America but that 4 percent increases foretell barbarism?

Does a free-market economy suppose anarchy?

The United States, as Mr. Friedman observes, is a special place. His commentary helps shred that something special to which we are all devoted. PETER J. TRAVERS, Hopewell, N.J., Jan. 30, 1996

## How Many Is Too Many Children?

To the Editor:

Re "What Childless Women Are Missing" (letter, Jan. 28): We remain agnostic about whether or not it is "better" for women to bear children or remain childless by choice. But Naomi Goldberg's conservative estimate that she may have 1,000 progeny is worrisome.

In a world of growing human population and alarming ecological pressures, bearing 14 children hardly seems something to crow about. Each child raised in the United States has the environmental impact of 100 African children. Moreover, Mrs. Goldberg reveals one of the driving forces behind child-rearing: not selflessness, but selfishness.

It is to be hoped that Mrs. Goldberg and others in her community will have more concern for the world their children will inherit and less for the sheer number of children they bring into it. ANNE-MARIE CODUR, KAL RAUSTALLA, Waltham, Mass., Jan. 29, 1996

The writers are, respectively, visiting fellow, Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies, and assistant professor of politics, Brandeis.

The Times welcomes letters from readers. Letters must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Those selected may be shortened for space reasons. Fax letters to (212) 556-3622 or send by electronic mail to letters@nytimes.com, or by regular mail to Letters to the Editor, The New York Times, 229 West 43d Street, New York, N.Y. 10036-3959.

## No Laughing Matter

To the Editor:

Nowhere in Jeanne Safer's Jan. 17 Op-Ed article did she suggest that all women should choose not to have children, as Naomi Goldberg (letter, Jan. 28) implies. Ms. Safer conveyed that it was indeed possible for women who choose not to or who cannot bear offspring to live meaningful lives.

That Mrs. Goldberg and her friends "fell on the floor laughing" because someone found a purpose in life other than their own illustrates not the compassion a genuinely religious attitude should engender but the contempt and condescension of bigotry. PAUL GROSSMAN, New York, Feb. 1, 1996

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To the Editor:

Re "The Power of Prayer, Denied" (Op-Ed, Jan. 31):

I cannot agree with Stephen L. Carter's conclusions about the case of Ian Lundman, who died from diabetes when mainstream medical science was eschewed in favor of Christian Science. Nor do I believe that the Supreme Court's refusal to hear the case tells us very much about the freedom of religion in this country.

Who decides a child's fate in every context up to and including life or death is the issue. As long as we view children as the property of their parents alone, with exclusive rights to make, break or extinguish life from such chattel, we will continue to return vulnerable human beings to violently abusive homes, argue whether unconsented sexual mutilation of a minor is a "cultural" issue and allow conventionally accepted and empirically proved medical treatments to be withheld.

Our laws and traditions hold that citizens are responsible to one another and that society will defend the rights of all groups. Why are the kids left out of this? KATHLEEN SLOCUM, Blairstown, N.J., Jan. 31, 1996

To the Editor:

Re Stephen L. Carter's "Power of Prayer, Denied":

A few purely medical comments are worth noting. Often when cases involving the death of a child being treated by Christian Science prayer are reported, the cause is juvenile diabetes. This form of diabetes is always fatal without insulin and always treatable with insulin as long as it is administered in time.

Mr. Carter's argument about not demeaning the parent's faith is moot. The child dies. There are clearly pediatric diseases that should be excepted in all cases from prayer as the only treatment — diabetes and life-threatening infections like meningitis.

The Constitution notwithstanding, the state must protect minors from what could be called religious abuse. BASIL J. PAPABARIS, M.D., New Canaan, Conn., Jan. 31, 1996

The writer, an internist, is the parent of a child with diabetes.

To the Editor:

Stephen L. Carter (Op-Ed, Jan. 31) suggests that because Ian Lundman's parents acted out of sincere religious conviction they should not be held liable for the consequences of their actions. Yet surely he wouldn't make a similar argument on behalf of devout parents who bleed their child to death trying to rid him of demonic possession, or on behalf of a father who deflowers his pubescent daughter in the belief that he is thereby honoring certain religious tenets.

Parents' rights to the free exercise of religion are properly infringed when that practice itself infringes children's safety and well-being.

The fact that a right is "unalienable" does not mean that it is limitless. Christian Science parents might believe that prayer is more powerful than insulin treatment against diabetes, but a state based on secular, rationalistic principle does not and may not endorse that belief.

Perhaps it is the notion of such a state that bothers Mr. Carter, as well as the notion that a child is more than an adjunct of a parent's conscience and cannot be sacrificed at the altar of parental convictions, religious or otherwise. NONTAS KONSTANTAKIS, Princeton, N.J., Jan. 31, 1996

To the Editor:

While Stephen L. Carter delineates the church-state issue in "The Power of Prayer, Denied," he overlooks the parental rights issue. Eleven-year-old Ian Lundman died of diabetes in the custody of his mother, and under the care of his mother, stepfather and two Christian Science practitioners.

It appears the boy's biological father had no say in his medical care. Even after his parents' divorce, Ian's family still included his father. Is the father's religion irrelevant? (Rev.) ANTHONY P. JOHNSON, Long Branch, N.J., Jan. 31, 1996

To the Editor:

Stephen L. Carter is wrong to imply that those who believe in the healing power of prayer should support the Christian Science parents who prayed for their dying son rather than provide medical treatment.

I see proof to the contrary every Saturday morning in my synagogue, when time is set aside for congregants to approach the Torah scroll and have a special prayer said for the recovery of a sick relative or friend.

What I always find most interesting (and moving) is seeing the many medical doctors standing in line, waiting their turn to offer their prayers. Prayer and medicine are not mutually exclusive. Both are often needed to preserve our health and that of our children. JOSEPH C. KAPLAN, New York, Jan. 31, 1996



**Foreign Affairs**

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

**Where Beauty Stops**

KIBUYE, RWANDA

Nothing quite prepares you for the beauty of Kibuye. The tiny Rwandan village is nestled on a terraced hillside overlooking Lake Kivu, the huge volcanic lake in the heart of Central Africa. There are streams and waterfalls coursing through the hills. Not far from here, among the cloud-shrouded volcanoes, Dian Fossey researched "Gorillas in the Mist." On a promontory jutting into the lake is a large Catholic church built of stone, surrounded by tall banana trees.

And that is where the beauty stops. Because just behind the church there is a deep hole and down in it are five members of Physicians for Human Rights, exhuming a mass grave — one of dozens that scar the Rwandan landscape from the fever of genocide that broke out here in April 1994. Thousands of Tutsi and moderate Hutu villagers had come to the church thinking this was God's house and that it would protect them from rampaging Hutu extremists. It did not. They were slaughtered between the pews, hacked to death with machetes in the reflection of the stained-glass windows and then buried beneath the banana trees.

Their bodies have long since decomposed, but relatives can sometimes identify family members from clothing fragments still on the skeletons. Some of the bones speak for themselves, like the pair of hands that were found sliced in a straight line along the knuckles. The victim must have been holding up his hands, trying to shield his face, when a

**The dilemma of war crimes in Rwanda.**

machete was brought down on him with enormous force. Some 4,000 people were murdered in this spot alone — 500,000 in all Rwanda.

This dig is part of a massive effort by the U.N.'s International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to track down the perpetrators of the Rwanda genocide. There are 35 investigators, and 10 prosecutors, collecting witness testimony and forensic evidence to convict the leaders of this massacre. Eight have been indicted so far.

But can such a tribunal really make a difference? In talking to the villagers here who survived the massacre, it is clear that while they want justice, they want it now. They still see murderers walking free. But the war crimes tribunal is laboriously slow. It needs to build an air-tight case according to international law. The villagers want an eye for an eye. The tribunal wants habeas corpus. There is a misfit.

Moreover, the whole purpose of a war crimes tribunal is to assign individual guilt for the genocide, so that people here won't assign collective guilt, so that every Tutsi won't treat every Hutu as a mass murderer. But there are so many individuals involved. I visited the women's prison in the Rwandan capital, Kigali. As you enter the large courtyard some 400 Rwandan women, many with sucking babies at their breasts, are huddled in small groups along the walls, their heads shaved. They range from grandmothers to teenagers. Many of them are knitting, with balls of brightly colored yarn spooled at their feet. It could be a village scene from anywhere in Rwanda — except that most of these women are accused of genocide. Many are accused of murdering other women and their children with machetes. These are not killers in jackboots or maniacs with long-range artillery. These are mothers.

If you start prosecuting war crimes in such a tribal conflict, in which so many people are involved, where do you stop? But if you don't do it, and known mass murderers go free, how will it stop? It's that second question that leads me to conclude that you have to go through this exercise, even if it means that only the 200 lead perpetrators are caught, tried and convicted. It is critical that people here see that you cannot just kill with impunity — that someone is watching.

"Killing with impunity has been part of the tradition in this country," said Kabera Asiel, Governor of Kibuye. "No one ever regrets. They only want to kill again. We have to eradicate this culture of impunity." That culture ran so deeply here that when the Hutu majority first started massacring Tutsi, the Hutu-run Rwandan television showed some of the massacres on the evening news. It never occurred to anyone that the TV film might become evidence in a war crimes tribunal.

That's why this tribunal has to happen. Because even if it nets only a few people at the very top, you can at least hope that the next time, someone, somewhere, might think twice about joining in on a massacre. If you've done that, you've done a lot.

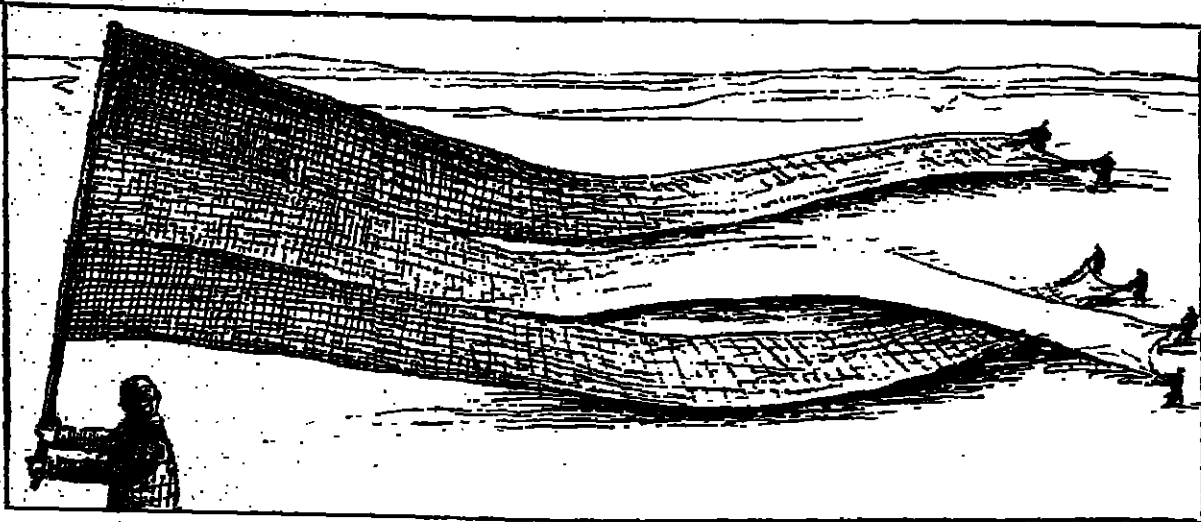


Illustration by Janice Kapova

**Terms of Engagement**

By Strobe Talbott

**O**ver the past five years, the United States policy of steady engagement with Russia has paid benefits to the American people. With our help, the Russians have dismantled thousands of nuclear warheads and rocket launchers. Russian troops, having withdrawn from Germany and the Baltic states, are serving alongside their NATO counterparts in Bosnia. The United States is now the largest foreign investor in Russia, and bilateral trade has nearly tripled in the past three years.

When Secretary of State Warren Christopher meets with Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny M. Primakov in Helsinki this week, he will stress America's determination to preserve and, where possible, to deepen and broaden these accomplishments. He will also discuss some issues on which we have differences, such as Russia's intention to sell nuclear reactors to Iran.

The meeting will take place against the backdrop of troubling trends, as Russia's June presidential election approaches. Communists and ultra-nationalists, tapping into fear of the future and nostalgia for the past, are riding high in the polls and in the Parliament. Democrats and centrists are divided. An embattled President Boris Yeltsin, poised to announce his campaign for reelection, has dismissed a number of prominent reformers.

Even when the direction of Russian politics is uncertain, the fundamentals of American policy remain clear and consistent. We are not supporting democracy. It is not our responsibility to choose Russia's lead-

Strobe Talbott is Deputy Secretary of State.

ers. It never was. The Russian people now have the power to do that themselves.

We believe that the enfranchisement of Russian citizens will, if sustained, be good for their country and for the world. The impressive voter turnout in December's parliamentary elections suggests that the Russian people are getting used to choosing their leaders. The Russian media, through their coverage of the devastating use of force in Chechnya, have demonstrated that they cherish their new independence.

Freedom of choice and speech will

**It is not our role to choose Russia's leaders.**

help move Russia toward the rule of law and the consolidation of a civil society. As President Clinton has repeatedly stressed, democracies are more likely to be reliable partners in trade and diplomacy, and more likely to pursue foreign and defense policies that are compatible with United States interests.

We will advance those interests in the short term as well as the long by giving priority to three objectives:

**Nuclear security.** We will press for implementation of arms control agreements that enhance international security and reduce levels of lethal weaponry left over from the superpower rivalry. Now that the Senate has ratified Start II, President Yeltsin, Prime Minister Viktor S. Chernomyrdin and Foreign Minister Primakov have vowed to intensify their effort for ratification by the Parliament. Meanwhile, we will look for new ways to control dangerous fissile material and enhance the

safety of reactors at a summit meeting in Moscow in April.

**An undivided Europe.** Russia has yet to comply fully with the Conventional Forces in Europe treaty. We are working hard with Russia and the other treaty signatories to resolve this problem so that it no longer casts a cloud over a broad range of mutually reinforcing European security arrangements. They include an expanding NATO-Russia relationship as NATO takes in new members; an enhanced role for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and increased practical cooperation between NATO and the former members of the Warsaw Pact, through the Partnership for Peace.

**Peace and independence.** Russia is stepping up its call for economic and political integration among the former Soviet republics. In Eurasia, as in other parts of the world, we oppose coercion and intimidation of neighboring states. We will endorse regional cooperation only so long as it is truly and totally voluntary and only if it opens doors to the outside world.

That sort of integration is our overarching aspiration for a democratic Russia and the other new independent states. It is in our interests — and theirs — that they join, as soon and as fully as possible, the growing community of market democracies. But the pace of their integration into the West will depend on the pace of their reforms and on their adherence to international norms.

These terms of engagement have undergirded Administration policy for the past three years. They have already furthered vital and enduring American interests. They will continue to serve the United States well in the suspenseful months — and years — ahead.

**Liberties**

MAUREEN DOWD

**Playing the Kid Card**

MANCHESTER, N.H.

Pat Buchanan looks alarmingly cuddly in his new ad.

This is a man who cleaved so rigidly to blue-suit-white-shirt-red-tie that "Crossfire" once rejected the idea of dress-down Fridays because, as a producer put it, "What would Pat wear?" (His old Adam Smith tie?)

But in his commercial, the faux populist sports a fuzzy ski sweater (albeit with dress shoes and black socks) and has kids propped all around him. "The future of America belongs to our children," he says, and the number of kids staring at the camera multiplies exponentially as the frame enlarges.

Asked on the trail whether the kids were related or merely retained for the occasion, Mr. Buchanan said they were nieces and nephews. "But don't ask me to remember all their names," he said, laughing.

Politicians, like W.C. Fields, have always forced themselves to share the screen with children and dogs. (Cats don't test well.) George Bush warmed up his image in '88 when he lifted up his blond granddaughter in an ad, adding a touch of Ralph Lauren to Willie Horton.

But this year kids are definitely the hot campaign accessory.

In his State of the Union speech, President Clinton — in perfect marketing synergy with the conservative ideas espoused in "It Takes a Village" — used the word "children" 37 times, and variations of "child" seven times. In his tired response, Bob Dole was only able to muster nine variations of "child."

Mr. Clinton was so eager to purloin Republican issues like family values, he got a little carried away.

"For the first time since the dawn of the nuclear age," he said proudly, "there is not a single Russian missile pointed at America's children." But they never were pointed at America's children. The chilling thing about the nuclear danger was that children were "collateral damage."

The President-as-Teen-Ager has been trying to morph into the Good Father. Nina Burleigh reports in *George* magazine that this image was devised by feminist writer Naomi Wolf, who is married to White House speechwriter David Shipley. Ms. Wolf was recruited by the triangulating Dick Morris to help woo straying female voters.

She proposed in one memo that Mr. Clinton be portrayed as "the comforting authority figure who builds and then defends the family

home" and suggested an ad where a bulldozer representing Republican proposals attacks the house where kids are sleeping.

If Mr. Clinton turns into the Good Father, then Mr. Dole turns into the Grumpy Grandfather. The Dole camp is fighting this generational bump by playing the kiddie card more vigorously.

Mari Maseng Will, the communications director, described Mr. Dole's new message in New Hampshire: "We need to return to the America we thought about as children, with its basic values, so that we will have a better America to leave

**The 'Romper Room' strategy.**

to our children." Politicians, busy paring back Federal programs that help poor children, find it useful to nobly intone about the future of America's children. Some of the candidates rhapsodizing about kids have spent more time with policy papers in their offices than with children at the mall.

Richard Ben Cramer wrote about how Mr. Dole's daughter from his first marriage, Robin, had to leave her father a memo and wait several days before getting permission to have her ears pierced.

Michael Kinsley, the editor of *Micro* magazine, says that politicians should not have to fake populism.

"This is a group of narrowly focused, professional politicians who have to act like they spend their time at the bowling alley with the kids," he said. "All because this is a time in political history when merely wishing to devote your life to the good of the nation is not sufficient."

Alex Castellanos, a media adviser to Phil Gramm, agrees that "politicians are so hated now, if they talk about kids, it's a way of saying, 'Hey, I am like you. We care about the same things.'" He says it's also a good way to court yuppie suburban independent swing voters. "Kids are the biggest things in their lives."

Who's kidding who? Everybody's kidding everybody. People who start out exploiting children politically, may end up acting like children politically.

**Anonymous? Not Me.**

By Patricia Marx

**I**f you didn't write "Primary Colors," then why are you denying it on TV so much?" is the most frequently asked question in Washington, these days. This is the new novel whose plot distinctly resembles the 1992 Clinton campaign. The book was signed Anonymous, the author with the very, very airbrushed jacket photo.

A few suspects are easily ruled out. George Stephanopoulos, the model for the narrator, has spent too much of his life instructing people where to put the o's and u's in his own last name for him to pick a hard-to-spell pen name like "Anonymous." James Carville and Mary Matalin would have included cute back and forth sparring. Paul Begala is anonymous to most people, so that's a giveaway. Chelsea Clinton has too much homework. Salman Rushdie likes to be on television too much to write a book sub rosa. J. Edgar Hoover is dead.

I hate to put an end to the parlor games, but here's my confession. I wrote "Primary Colors."

Why? Frankly, I was bitter. When Patricia Marx is writing a TV comedy for HBO set in the White House kitchen.

I was not given the top job at the travel office, I vowed revenge. Why did I choose a pseudonym? My agent informed me that more people would buy a book from Anonymous than from Patty Marx.

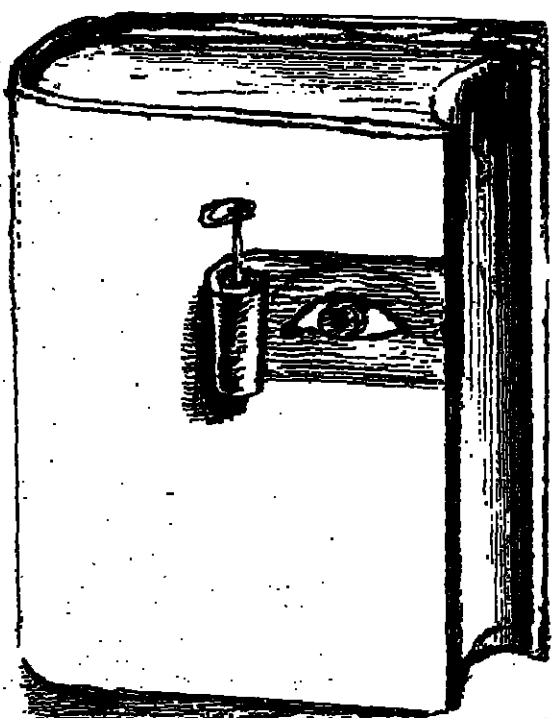
Where did I, a complete outsider to politics, get my information? I found it in a cartoon on a table in the White House. Why did I choose to reveal my identity now? Have you ever tried to cash a check made out to "Anonymous"?

By the way, I am the same Anonymous who recently donated \$15 million to the New York Public Library. It was also my idea to call Hillary Rodham Clinton's book "It Takes a Village." She wanted to call it "Don't Blame Me." I am J. D. Saitinger, too.

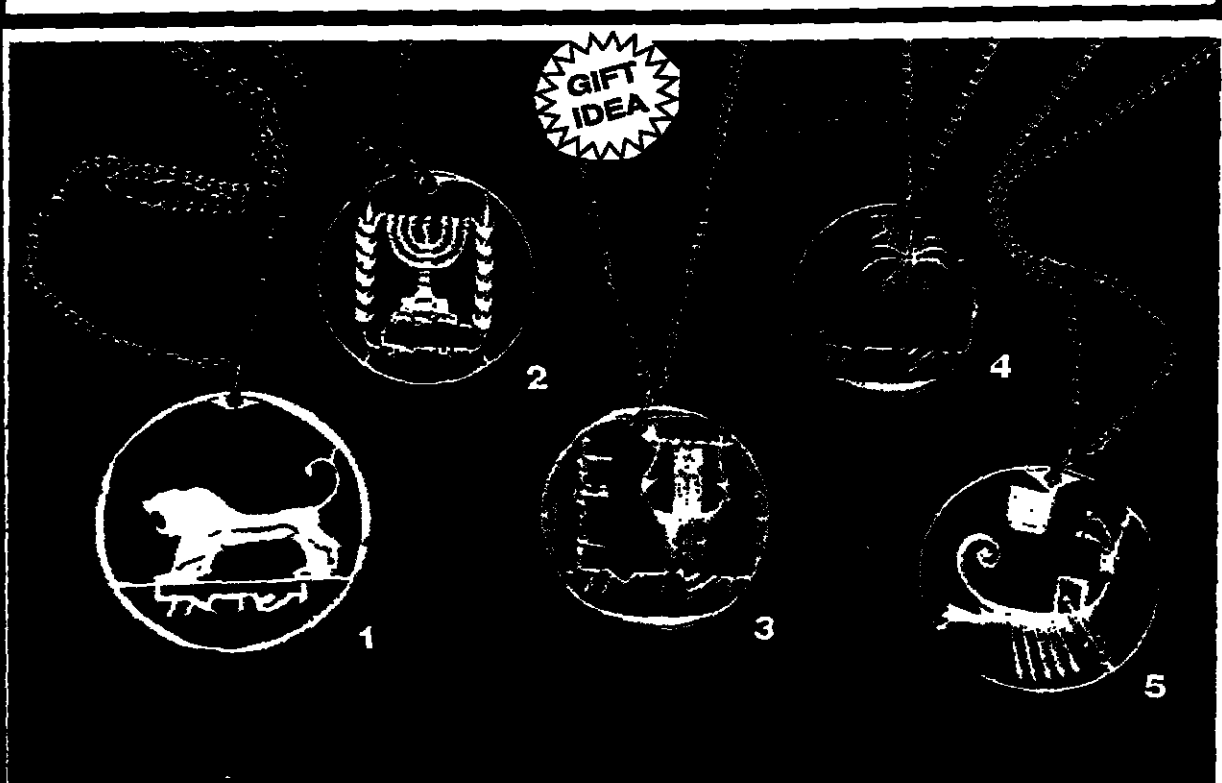
Skeptics may think me an unlikely author of such a knowing political satire. But consider this: The words "primary colors" include all of the letters in my first name except "i" and all of the letters in my last name except "x." The book is set in Washington; I was born just 110 miles from Washington! The book is about the friends of Bill; you can't believe how many of my friends are named Bill! The word "color" was spelled without a "u," which means the author is not English; I am not English! The book costs \$24; I have \$24! Henry Burton, the Stephanopoulos-like narrator, had a secretary named Lincoln; I had a Lincoln Town Car named Henry! The coincidences do not end there.

**O.K., O.K., I'll take credit for 'Primary Colors.'**

What's next for me? I'm running for President. I have an idea for a flatware tax.



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3. David's Harp, representing King David's harp, mentioned in the Bible
4. The Date Palm, one of the Seven Species of Eretz Yisrael
5. An Ancient Ship, representing seamanship and the art of shipbuilding in the time of Solomon

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\*Please list gift recipients' names and addresses separately, and we'll send them the medallion, with a gift notice in your name.



ECONOMY

# Having Gotten the Part, Bronfman Plays the Mogul

## Can Seagram heir put the dazzle back into MCA?

By GERALDINE FABRIKANT and BERNARD WEINRAUB

LESS than three weeks ago, 80 top executives of MCA Inc. were ordered to show up at a hotel in downtown Los Angeles for an all-day meeting with their new boss, Edgar Bronfman Jr., chief executive of the Seagram Company. The invitation had only one request: wear jeans.

With his troops seated around him in a huge circle, Mr. Bronfman got right to the point. He declared that he wanted to redesign MCA from top to bottom to cut costs and increase profits. Seagram, he said, was in this for the long haul; it believed in buying, not selling, companies. And he appealed to the divisions, which had a long history of squabbling, to cooperate more closely. Employees had already gotten a taste of the new openness when MCA had its first Christmas party in memory, a boisterous celebration on a sound stage at Universal Pictures, MCA's movie division.

Mr. Bronfman's style and message could not have been more different from the atmosphere at the old MCA, before Seagram acquired an 80 percent stake last June from the Matsushita Electric Industrial Company of Japan for \$5.7 billion. Under the 50-year reign of its 82-

year-old patriarch, Lew R. Wasserman, MCA had gained a reputation as the austere antithesis of Hollywood glitz. Run by men in conservative suits, it was known for its rigid chain of command, its competing fiefs, its intimidating corporate culture and a cost-consciousness so deeply embedded that Mr. Wasserman himself regularly checked overtime claims.

"We are going to transform MCA," Mr. Bronfman said in an interview. "What we bought here was a series of opportunities."

Lanky and almost deliberately casual, Mr. Bronfman sat on a black leather sofa in his temporary office at MCA's headquarters in a black-glass tower in Universal City. Beside him sat Ron Meyer, a former top Hollywood agent who is Mr. Bronfman's No. 2 and who has been given the task of overhauling MCA.

As Mr. Bronfman talked, bulldozers could be seen through his wall-sized picture window flattening the terrain for a "Jurassic Park" attraction at the company's theme park below. "What I like most about the entertainment business is that it provides Seagram with an opportunity to invest heavily in North America as an asset base and to build a global franchise for a company that was perhaps the most parochial of the entertainment companies," Mr. Bronfman said.

But while his vows to rejuvenate MCA have won praise in the entertainment industry, some media experts and people close to the sprawling company — which in addition to Universal Pictures owns Universal Television, theme parks in Florida and California, a record division and a book company — wonder if the heir to the Canadian beverage empire has what it takes.

They applaud his efforts to make MCA an exciting place to work and do business again, after a decade in which its studio had gained a reputation in Hollywood as inflexible and uninspiring. But even his supporters worry that Mr. Bronfman, who has spent the last decade running Seagram, has appointed too many executives as inexperienced as he is at managing a media company — especially one as large as MCA, with 15,000 employees and annual revenues of roughly \$5 billion. And the new team is taking command while the industry is reeled with change and its main players are making multibillion-dollar bets on new businesses from network television to satellites.

Mr. Bronfman's choice for president of MCA raised eyebrows early on. Mr. Meyer, one of a triumvirate of talent agents who managed the Creative Artists Agency, a 400-person firm, was widely admired in Hollywood, but was considered by some to be lacking the broad management background required by his day-to-day responsibilities at MCA. Mr. Meyer then surprised the movie community by appointing a close friend with even less first-hand knowledge of the business: Howard Weitzman, a well-known trial lawyer, as executive vice president for corporate operations.

In addition, Mr. Meyer brought in his former Creative Artists colleague, Sanford R. Climan, as executive vice president.

The new team's greenness has made it slow to settle on an agenda. For months, it has been hunkered down at MCA's headquarters, communicating its objectives neither to the press nor to MCA's managers. And while some executives close to the company say they find the atmosphere liberating, they are waiting to hear specifics of Mr. Bronfman's vision. "We want to know what the plan is," one MCA executive said, on the condition of anonymity. "Creating a company that is 'talent friendly' is a tactic. It is not a strategy."

Indeed, investor unease is one reason why Seagram's stock has risen only 15 percent since the deal was first reported last April. In the same period, the broader market jumped 27 percent.

Mr. Bronfman's uphill battle with skeptics is all the steeper because he has to overcome questions about motivation. His father's ranking at No. 19 on the Forbes 400 list of America's wealthiest people — with a fortune estimated at \$2.7 billion — makes it difficult for him to escape the public perception that he is a rich man who has bought the ultimate toy. His associates say there is no doubt Mr. Bronfman is enthralled by the entertainment business. But, they argue, he is a quick study and struck a savvy deal with Matsushita.

Mr. Bronfman has already converted some skeptics. Bill Simon, who heads the entertainment-division of Korn Ferry International, an executive recruiting firm, came around after hearing Hollywood's newest mogul speak at a recent television-industry convention. "I thought he was just a rich guy," Mr. Simon said. "But he has a clue" about how the business works.

Mr. Bronfman also brings a respectable, though not stellar, corporate reputation to MCA, with analysts rating his performance at Seagram from fair to good. But running an entertainment conglomerate is different from handling the family liquor business. While at Seagram he could turn to his father and other relatives for support, at MCA he remains dependent on his lieutenants and professional experts. "There is certainly the soundboard issue," said Harold Vogel, an analyst who follows Seagram for Cowen & Company, a New York investment firm. "Who will ask the smart questions?"

To make the challenge tougher, Mr. Bronfman splits his time between Seagram's beverage operations and MCA, commuting between a rented home in Malibu and a town house in New York, where the parent company has its headquarters. That, while he competes against seasoned pros like Rupert Murdoch, chairman of the News Corporation, and Michael D. Eisner, chairman of the Walt Disney Company.

Mr. Bronfman brushes aside such concerns, saying he has "a management team that is working 24 hours a



Edgar Bronfman Jr., right, with Ron Meyer.

day." While he volunteered few details, he said the essence of his strategy was to build up each of MCA's core businesses of film, television, music, theme parks and books without necessarily buying television stations or undertaking ambitious forays into distribution. "We want to be a successful content provider and content creator," Mr. Bronfman said. "We hope we can attract talent, motivate better and make better programming."

More thrills are on the way. MCA is constructing a second park in Orlando, Fla., which could double the number of Universal's visitors in that state to 14 million by 1999. It also has plans for its first foreign park, in Osaka, Japan.

Mr. Bronfman also said he hoped to emulate Disney by making the most of the name recognition of Universal. "I don't think Universal is nearly as strong a brand as it can be," he added, leaning forward. "Disney has used its theme parks to create a brand for the company that is used for 1,000 different things."

Mr. Bronfman's approach is hardly revolutionary. His emphasis on content is reminiscent of Viacom's determination to stay in programming rather than invest in worldwide distribution. And his obsession with the MCA franchise echoes Mr. Eisner's determination to "get every squeeze out of the pig," as Jeffrey Logsdon, a media analyst at the Seidler Group in Los Angeles, described Disney's marketing prowess.

Trouble is, MCA lacks Disney's trove of animated characters that lend themselves to cross-pollination among divisions. And if all Mr. Bronfman aspires to do is out-Disney the Lion King itself, there is the real question of why shareholders should bet on Seagram's shares. Mr. Vogel, the Cowen & Company analyst, said that investors were already paying 9.2 times Seagram's cash flow for its shares, the same multiple that Disney fetches. While MCA has untapped assets, Disney has a better track record.

Though both Mr. Bronfman and Mr. Meyer declined to comment directly on their predecessors' performance, they clearly believe they have to start by ministering to the balkanized company they inherited from Mr. Wasserman and his president, Sidney L. Sheinberg. Mr. Sheinberg declined to comment and Mr. Wasserman did not return phone calls.

That discord cost MCA dearly at times. In 1987, for example, even though the company's movie division wanted to strike a deal with Castle Rock Pictures, an independent film and television producer, the MCA television division refused to accede to a Castle Rock request for lower distribution fees, executives familiar with the talks said. Its refusal to budge — even though it was desperate for programming — drove Castle Rock into the arms of a rival, Columbia Pictures, for which it subsequently produced the smash television comedy series "Seinfeld."

those operations "pulled in for all of 1994. And margins still lag those of other Hollywood studios."

Keeping Universal Pictures primed with hits is the first priority of Mr. Meyer, a man with a golden Rolodex. In recent weeks, he and Casey Silver, chairman of MCA's motion picture group, have made deals with Jersey Films, co-owned by the actor Danny DeVito; with Imagine Entertainment, run by the producer Brian Grazer and the director Ron Howard; with the directors David Zucker and Jerry Zucker; with the director John Singleton; with the actor Sylvester Stallone; and with the production company run by the actress Demi Moore, who like Mr. Stallone is a former client of Mr. Meyer at Creative Artists.

The risks are large. Celebrity deals that go flat can cost studios dearly. Hollywood has been known to take advantage of new teams that are eager to get rolling and are willing to spend money for quick results. The recent announcement of a deal worth a reported \$60 million with Mr. Stallone caught Hollywood's attention because his last few pictures have flopped. Mr. Bronfman said, however, that the terms were less generous than most people supposed.

The sense of urgency to rebuild MCA's film roster has only increased since Universal Pictures lost its prime star and best creative mind, Steven Spielberg, the producer and director of "Jurassic Park" fame. He joined Jeffrey Katzenberg, a prominent production executive, and the David Geffen, the record entrepreneur, to form Dreamworks SKG, a competing entertainment company, last year.

To really succeed, Mr. Meyer needs to find similar hits that can make money for other divisions by generating everything from theme-park rides to T-shirt logos. But he says he won't simply increase market share by churning out movies, as Paramount tried unsuccessfully last year. "It's not about being No. 1 in box-office gross," Mr. Meyer said. "It is about profitability."

Television, in particular, needs an overhaul. Cash flow has dwindled from about \$30 million in 1992 to about \$7 million last year.

While it has had a few successful hour-long shows like "Murder, She Wrote" and "Magnum, P.I.," MCA has failed to concoct the sort of half-hour comedy hits, like "Seinfeld" or "Friends," that dominate television. Mr. Bronfman vows to close that gap.

To get things moving, he has brought in Gregory Meidel, former head of sales for Fox Television. Though Mr. Meidel had never overseen television production, a number of television executives at rival companies note that his experience in selling programming to stations on behalf of the producers Steven Bochco and Jim Brooks makes him familiar with what audiences want to see in various time slots.

The archetypal salesman, Mr. Meidel, a tall and tanned 42-year-old, is already poring over scripts and plotting MCA's comeback. The company's decision not to expand into distribution may cost it dearly. This month, the Walt Disney Company takes control of Capital Cities/ABC and becomes the world's largest entertainment conglomerate. Disney is already planning to produce some programming for ABC.

"There are areas that we could get squeezed out of," Mr. Meyer conceded.

Although the studio grabs most of the spotlight, Mr. Bronfman is by some accounts more intrigued by the music division, given his own artistic stirrings. He wrote songs in the 1970's (Dionne Warwick recorded one called "Whisper in the Dark") and recently composed another one for his new wife. He even has a hit in Japan on the Sony label that he wrote with a colleague, entitled "To Love You More."

MCA's record division did exceptionally well in 1994, and last year it contributed a respectable \$96 million in cash flow in the first nine months on revenue of \$929 million.

Just two weeks ago, Mr. Bronfman showed his commitment to MCA Music's new chief executive, Doug Morris, by authorizing him to acquire half of Interscope Records, best known for its gangsta rap artists, for about \$200 million. The decision came as a surprise because it could embroil MCA in the debate with politicians and parents' groups over violent and sexual lyrics. To avoid the stigma, MCA is reportedly planning to withhold any Interscope albums it considers too controversial.

The purchase is also risky, in the view of Emanuel Gerard, a partner with the New York investment firm of Gerard Klauer Mattison & Company, because Interscope has yet to turn a profit and has no inventory of music it can reissue to assure profits. Moreover, the way the deal was negotiated raised further questions about Mr. Bronfman's reliance on others. People in the industry say his old friend Mr. Geffen is helping him complete the deal. (Mr. Geffen denies that he is playing a role.)

Mr. Bronfman's decision to expand the company's profitable theme park business was a more understandable move. Though its revenues are one-third those of the music division, it has been producing more in cash flow. In the latest nine months, it contributed \$105 million in cash flow — 36 percent of the parks' revenues.

Opening new parks and expanding the number of attractions devours capital, one reason why Mr. Bronfman is building the new park in Osaka, Japan, and the \$2 billion Florida project as joint ventures with the Rank Organization of Britain. Nonetheless, this is one area where he expects to put his experience at Seagram to good use, especially his familiarity with the Japanese consumer. "We just don't have an international presence," he said. "Seagram does."

He and his associates are less definite about MCA's publishing activities and its chain of 500 Spencer gift stores. Their collective margins have been consistent enough, but together they contributed only \$33 million in cash flow on sales of \$378 million in the latest nine-month period, less than the other three business clusters. Ultimately, Mr. Bronfman must decide whether to sell, or expand, the Puma brand publishing division, whose clients include Tom Clancy and Robin Cook.

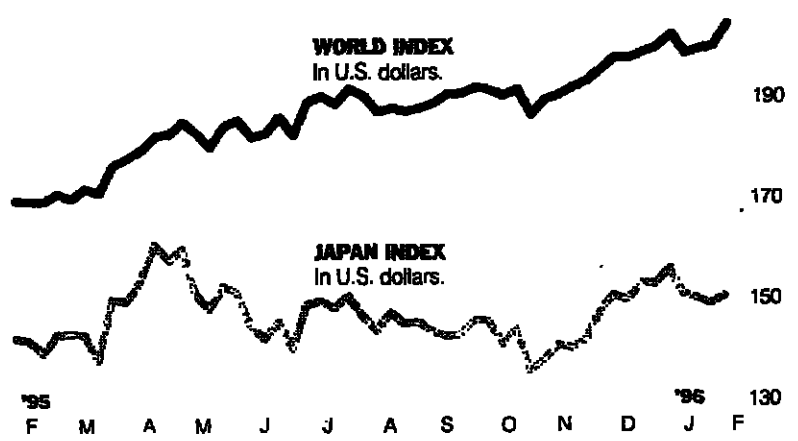
While MCA struggles to build revenues, it is also fighting to tame costs.

Mr. Bronfman and Mr. Meyer have begun integrating some of the Seagram and MCA corporate staffs. And, without providing much supporting detail, Seagram also recorded a \$290 million restructuring charge last fall. Such charges have become popular as companies use them to load various future costs into one bitter pill. Prepaying those expenses removes a drag and makes future earnings look healthier.

The unexpected writeoff concerned Robert Leininger, an analyst who follows Seagram for Gabelli & Company, that Seagram might be playing "accounting games." Mr. Bronfman countered that "accountants don't let you do that." But he declined to detail the writeoff. "We don't want our employees to read about our plans in the newspapers," he said.

Bringing in someone like Frank J. Biondi Jr. — Viacom's recently ousted chief executive — could buy the newcomers even more time. Mr. Bronfman and Mr. Biondi had lunch last week, prompting rumors that Mr. Biondi might join the company. Mr. Bronfman declined to comment, except to say that "the lunch was delicious."

### WORLD STOCK MARKETS



Prepared by Goldman, Sachs & Co. using data derived from the Financial Times/Standard & Poor's Actuaries World Indices, a measure of stock market performance. The FT Indices are compiled jointly by The Financial Times Limited, Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's, in conjunction with the Institute of Actuaries and Faculty of Actuaries.

### PERFORMANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS

Country	Index	Week			YTD			Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.
		% Chg.	Rank	% Chg.	Rank	% Chg.	Rank			
Australia	199.13	4.2	5	4.8	11	3.82	175.45	3.3		
Austria	187.32	1.6	17	7.3	9	1.49	144.85	11.5		
Belgium	215.35	3.5	7	3.0	16	3.22	182.35	7.0		
Brazil	170.25	9.5	1	23.4	1	1.44	306.55	24.2		
Britain	231.18	2.4	13	0.3	20	4.12	225.66	2.5		
Canada	157.18	2.8	12	5.9	10	2.40	156.38	6.7		
Denmark	299.20	0.2	26	3.6	14	1.40	234.05	7.5		
Finland	185.52	5.5	3	-0.8	24	1.79	177.54	4.1		
France	186.38	3.0	11	3.9	13	3.04	149.36	8.5		
Germany	170.45	1.3	20	4.1	12	1.82	131.79	8.2		
Hong Kong	447.68	3.7	6	15.5	3	3.19	444.40	15.5		
Ireland	258.12	1.2	21	1.0	17	3.31	231.97	3.3		
Italy	79.82	6.6	2	8.0	7	1.59	93.94	7.6		
Japan	152.71	1.0	22	-1.4	25	0.74	102.98	1.9		
Malaysia	520.84	1.8	16	7.4	8	1.63	512.01	7.9		
Mexico	1,211.63	0.7	24	17.0	2	1.42	9,809.67	12.4		
Netherlands	274.73	0.8	23	0.7	19	3.13	208.83	4.7		
New Zealand	80.31	3.5	8	0.8	18	4.61	63.02	2.6		
Norway	230.41	2.1	15	-0.4	22	2.06	203.00	2.4		
Singapore	458.61	3.3	10	12.6	6	1.34	299.68	12.9		
South Africa	437.76	0.4	25	13.6	5	3.37	349.31	13.8		
Spain	165.40	1.6	18	0.1	21	3.87	156.84	3.3		
Sweden	310.60	5.0	4	-0.5	23	1.88	319.64	4.4		
Switzerland	222.56	1.3	19	-5.7	26	1.58	168.18	-0.1		
Thailand	192.03	3.5	9	14.1	4	1.98	188.82	14.8		
United States	259.08	2.3	14	3.1	15	2.20	259.08	3.1		

### COMPOSITE INDICES

Index	Week % Chg.	Rank	YTD % Chg.	Rank	Dividend Yield	Index	YTD % Chg.
Europe	203.06	2.4	1.1	2.98	177.52	4.5	
Pacific Basin	166.28	1.5	0.6	1.16	115.10	3.3	
Europe/Pacific	181.50	1.9	0.8	2.01	138.80	3.9	
World	206.64	2.1	2.2	2.11	176.63	3.8	

Source: Goldman, Sachs & Co. Exchange rates as of Friday's London close. © 1996 The Financial Times Ltd., Goldman, Sachs & Co. and Standard & Poor's

### CURRENCIES

Exchange rate	Friday	Last Friday	Week % Chg.	Year Ago
Japanese yen to the U.S. dollar	106.38	106.80	-0.21	99.85
German marks to the U.S. dollar	1.4815	1.4905	-0.57	1.5267
Canadian dollars to the U.S. dollar	1.3758	1.3819	-0.41	1.4010
U.S. dollars to the British pound	1.5252	1.5037	+1.43	1.5635

Source: Bloomberg Financial Markets, exchange rates as of Friday's New York close.

## Jan. 29-Feb. 2: Stocks Surge but Bonds Slump After the Fed Cuts Interest Rates

### PRICES

DOMESTIC EQUITIES	
Broad market S. & P. 500 index	Up 2.29% 635.85
Blue chips Dow 30 Industrials	Up 1.94% 5,373.99
Small capitalization Russell 2000 index	Up 2.09% 317.72

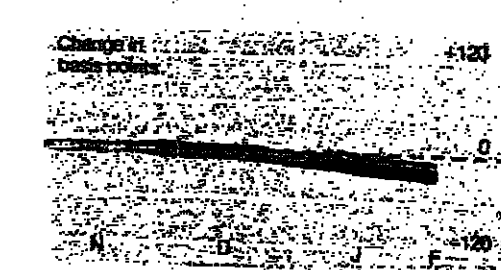
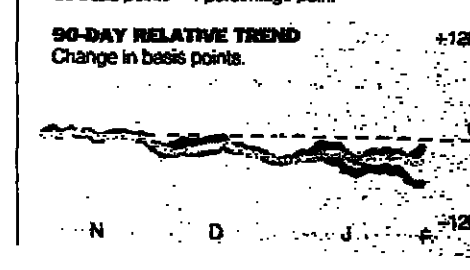
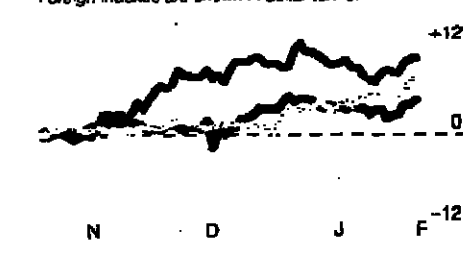
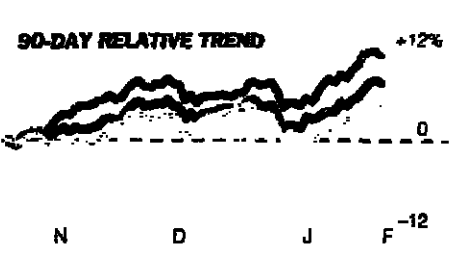
DOMESTIC BONDS	
Treasuries Ryan Labs. Total Return	Up 0.06% 192.44
Municipals Bond Buyer index	Up 0.65% 121.25
Corporates Merrill Lynch Master index	Unchanged 820.69

AROUND THE WORLD	
European stocks F.T.-Actuaries Europe	Up 2.35% 203.06
Asian stocks F.T.-Actuaries Pacific Basin	Up 1.45% 166.28
Gold New York cash price	Up 2.19% \$414.70

### YIELDS

BONDS	
Long bonds	6.16%
30-year Treasuries	Up 12 basis pts.
Short bonds	4.90%
2-year Treasuries	Down 13 basis pts.
Municipals	5.57%
Bond Buyer index	Down 6 basis pts.

OTHER INVESTMENTS	
Money market funds	5.01%
Bank fund average	Down 2 basis pts.
Bank C.D.'s	4.81%
1-year small savers	Down 3 basis pts.
Stocks	2.25%
S. & P. 500 dividend yield	Down 4 b.p.



Sources: Bank Rate Monitor; Bloomberg Financial Markets; The Bond Buyer; DataStream; Goldman, Sachs; IBC's Money Fund Report; Merrill Lynch; Standard & Poor's; Ryan Labs



# The silent era: A history of cinema in the Holy Land

**A new book by Hillel Tryster explores the first moments that Palestine was captured on film. Geoffrey Wigoder reports**

The silent film era in the Yishuv produced documentaries and newsreels, a two-reel comedy and a feature, all made primarily for export. Much of it is the story of a few stubborn pioneers fighting for the funds to make their films. And the source of that funding was usually the National Institutions (Jewish National Fund and Keren Hayesod), which had very strong ideas on the contents.

This is the background to Hillel Tryster's painstaking research *Israel before Israel: Silent Cinema in the Holy Land*, published by the Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive (of the Hebrew University and Central Zionist Archives).

The earliest films (and many of the later ones) were travelogues using the new marvel of cinematography to bring the Holy Land to viewers throughout the western world. One of them, a 1912 five-reeler called *From the Manger to the Cross*, was still in general distribution until the mid-1940s and was being shown in churches down to the 1960s.

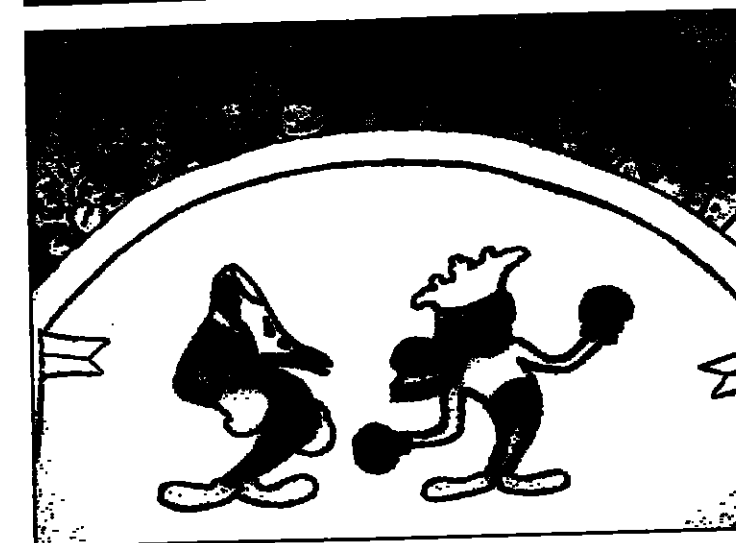
At a very early stage political Zionism realized the cinema's propaganda potential. The hour-long documentary (including a section on the Bezalel School featuring Boris Schatz), shot by Murray Rosenberg of England, was shown at the 1911 Zionist Congress in Basel.

After World War I the film, usually accompanied by a lecture, was shown widely. The JNF films gained a reputation for heavy-handedness (one of them had a plot with the dramatic climax of a US contributor, cabling \$100,000 to the JNF, and an interstitial memo asked, "Do we have to photograph every cow on JNF land from the front, rear and side?").

Nevertheless, they were influential in projecting the positive image of the new Jew in the Land of Israel, which was received with



Julian W. Orde's 1899 frame, above, reveals what is assumed to be Alfred Dreyfus (second from right) being walked in the prison yard in Rennes by a jailer; (right, from top): charred remains of Torah scrolls are examined after the 1929 riots; rival shoe brands enter the boxing ring in an animated 1930s commercial for Keter-Yitzhak Hoz shoes; a scene from the film 'Palestinian Awakening' shows the guard Zvi Nisanov of Ein Harod.



pride throughout the Diaspora.

Tryster searched meticulously for documentation of this period and viewed whatever managed to survive. The hero of his story is Ya'akov Ben-Dor, who began his film career the day British general Lord Allenby entered Jerusalem and continued for many years, constantly photographing throughout the 1920s.

However, Revisionist leader Vladimir Jabotinsky - who admired him as an artist - was scathing in his reaction to Ben-Dor's proposal for a longer documentary. "Most of Mr. Ben-Dor's scheme is absolutely uninteresting and can only bore the audience. To show them for meters and meters the Ashkenazi and the Sephardi and the Bokharan and the Moroccan Jew would be a trial of patience."

"The same applies to the different settlements," Jabotinsky said. "After all, they are all alike, and people would be bored to death by being shown Rehovot after they have seen Rishon. The public dislikes geographical and ethno-

graphical shows without any plot to liven them up. The only successful form of film propaganda would be a great drama."

The other notable pioneers of the 1920s are the colorful dancer, painter and cinematographer Baruch Agadati; Nathan Axelrod, whose main contribution came with his newsreels in the sound era; Chaim Halachmi; and Yerushalayim Segal, who from the 1930s was the outstanding translator of foreign films into Hebrew.

Apart from the JNF, the other major financial source of the Zionist films was Keren Hayesod, which took a softer propaganda approach. Tryster describes in detail the development of the three documentaries it sponsored, intended to be shown in cinemas to accompany the main feature. "The best known of these films was *Springtime in Palestine*, whose idea originated with Hans Kohn, the noted historian, at that time a Keren Hayesod official in Jerusalem.

When it was completed, Henry Montor - who became the Jewish

world's whiz fundraiser - wrote to Kohn that "the new film is the most disreputable motion picture made in the past decade. Its photography is beneath contempt. Its story is absurd. The editing is that of a child. It may have been a masterpiece in 1890; today it is only fit for the trash basket."

"The Palestinians do not seem to have any conception of what is wanted by an American audience." The only two silent features made in Palestine were produced in the 1930s, by which time the rest of the world had long been making films in sound. The short, called *Vayehi Binyan*, was a comedy set during the Tel Aviv *adloyada* (Purim parade).

Its creator, Halachmi, describes in a letter how he raised the funding: "We received £15 as a loan and signed a promissory note. We signed another promissory note for £3. One friend gave us £1, another half a pound, until we accumulated £28, and with this we created our little 600-meter film."

The full-length feature film was *Oded Hanoded*, shot all over the

country, with its desert scenes filmed in a Beduin encampment in Ramat Gan. One of the actors was Shimon Finkel, who was called on to ride a horse. In fact, he was filmed holding the reins while sitting on a barrel. The only country where the silent version was shown was Belgium. In the US, a pirated version was synchronized with sound, and it was this version that pulled in the crowds to Tel Aviv.

Tryster digs up many other films made during the silent era - some by foreign companies shooting in Palestine, others by amateurs from abroad, such as the indomitable Hazel Greenwald of Hadassah. He also includes a brief history of screenings and of cinemas in the country, starting with the showing in a Jerusalem hotel of a film of the Dreyfus Affair, which was the occasion for Eliezer Ben-Yehuda to coin his Hebrew word for cinema, *re'ina*. This is just one of the many nuggets in Tryster's work, the value of which is enhanced by a wealth of well-chosen illustrations.

## Gloomy mood in Hong Kong reflects dread of handover to China

A mood of pessimism is sweeping through Hong Kong as the enormity of next year's handover of sovereignty to China strikes home.

Politicians have spoken of a difficult year ahead, and pollsters predict that up to 100,000 of the 5.7 million population could emigrate in the next 12 months to avoid the uncertainties of life under Chinese rule.

Confidence-building measures from Beijing could yet reverse the tide. But there are few signs that Chinese officials

are ready to acknowledge the problem, let alone take steps to counter what could develop into a crisis of confidence.

Britain can do little to instill faith in the future of a territory which it has run for more than 150 years, but from which it must soon withdraw.

The latest evidence of dismay in the territory emerged from a survey of Hong Kong's young people.

Unlike the older generation, they have grown up with the idea that Britain will

leave Hong Kong on June 30 next year when China will recover sovereignty over its "lost territory."

This was set out in the Sino-British Joint Declaration of 1984, and has long been an accepted part of political life in Hong Kong.

Yet a poll of 1,660 people aged between 15 and 24 found that more than 40 percent wanted to emigrate before the Chinese flag is hoisted over their homeland.

Respondents were most concerned

about the lack of freedom and human rights under Beijing's rule, as well as unemployment, deterioration in public order, and corruption.

They feared, in other words, that Hong Kong would become more like China. Timothy Wong, organizer of the poll, was quoted as saying that young people were very familiar with what was going on in China.

"They have learned from the media about the many problems in China, in its economy and political system, and

human rights," he said. "Inevitably, they will ask themselves whether that will occur in Hong Kong after 1997."

The leaders of Hong Kong's main political parties are also gloomy about the prospects for the colony.

Martin Lee, leader of the Democrats, the party that fared best in September's legislative elections, said what happened in 1995 was not reassuring, citing suggestions by the Beijing-appointed Preliminary Working Committee that Hong Kong's Bill of Rights be weak-

ened, and a "provisional legislature" be set up in 1997 to replace the one elected under Governor Chris Patten's reforms.

Even Tsang Yok-sing, leader of the Democratic Alliance for the Betterment of Hong Kong, a pro-Beijing party, sounded gloomy.

A headmaster by profession, Tsang said: "We have a lot to do in schools, in education, to bring up the younger generation with a positive attitude which will work for the future of Hong Kong." (The Daily Telegraph)

## Gulf war damage continues, from desert to dugongs

EARTHLY CONCERNS  
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

Five years after the Gulf War has, more or less, allowed Kuwait and what happened there to fade into the background, most people seem to think the effects of that war have passed. But the damage to the environment there continues to have a real and tangible effect on the area.

First of all, almost all the carefully planted and tended gardens that once made Kuwait City a true oasis in the desert are gone - they were destroyed by neglect during the invasion and the occupation and later, even more permanently, by the weeks of exposure to the acid smoke from the burning oil wells that hung miserably over the city. As a result, outside temperatures on the streets of Kuwait City have risen appreciably.

In addition, and probably even more devastating, is the deterioration of the terrain around the city. Although the actual fires were put out in record time and the oil that gushed from them has been stopped, the areas where it did spill has turned into a wasteland.

Every depression where small winter pools once collected whenever there was even a bit of rain is now an oil-lined cesspool where any water that does collect is contaminated and no longer sustains desert flora or fauna. This continues to cause much loss of rare desert species.

The movement of untold numbers of tracked vehicles, such as tanks, in and around the city and throughout the country has also wreaked havoc on the fragile desert terrain and its ecosystems. While such damage is easily oblit-

erated after a couple of rainy seasons in areas where precipitation is higher, such damage may persist for years in the desert. There are places in North Africa, for instance, where the tracks and the depredations of the military vehicles of Rommel's desert corps and the British Armored Divisions are still easily seen.

In Kuwait, the damage to the seas along the coasts of the entire area is even worse than these other problems. Here the large amounts of oil that was deliberately allowed to enter the sea has caused the death or decimation of almost all the mussel beds for its natural pearls.

The catch of fish too is at an all-time low, and the large schools once harvested for food have almost all either diminished or disappeared. And no one has seen a dugong, that most rare of sea mammals, in the area of the Kuwaiti coast since the end of the war, when several dead or dying dugongs were reportedly washed ashore.

Bird life has also suffered. In addition to the many water birds killed outright, many others have avoided the area they once favored because of the easily available fish in shallow bays on which they feed.

Environmentalists cannot even estimate how long it may take to fix the damage that was done in such a short time, if it ever can be repaired. But whatever the outlook, a new convention is needed to outlaw such practices and to allow the perpetrators of such acts of war on the environment to be prosecuted as war criminals.

## GAME TIME

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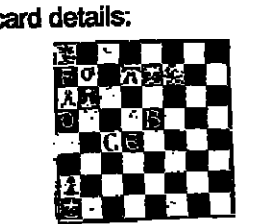
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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1996

## El Al not to offer shares in NY

Jerusalem Post Staff

EL AL will not offer shares on Wall Street, the Treasury decided, after an expert team it dispatched to New York concluded the market would not welcome the floatation, a Treasury spokesman said yesterday.

The team, headed by Government Companies' Authority Director Tamar Ben-David, returned from its visit to the US last week.

The decision not to sell shares in the American equity market comes nearly three years after Finance Minister Avraham Shohat decided not to offer the company's shares on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

The indications are that the market would only offer what the government seemed like, a low price for the national air carrier.

Observers believe that in addition to the fact that the industry worldwide is performing poorly, El Al's appeal to investors is hampered by its policy of observing Shabbat and its costly security standards.

With the prospects for an initial public offering all but gone, the Treasury would like to sell El Al to a strategic investor but, considering employee opposition to such a move, chances are very slim for any movement in that direction prior to this year's elections.

## Shamrock in talks with Hapoalim to buy Ampal

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

The Shamrock group is negotiating with Bank Hapoalim to gain control of its New York subsidiary Ampal, a source close to the group confirmed yesterday.

Ampal - which invests in Israeli companies - is one of the non-financial companies Bank Hapoalim is required to sell by the end of the year, following the Brodet Committee's report on the banking sector's non-financial holdings.

A bill pending in the Knesset calls for the banks to cut their non-financial holdings to 25 percent or less by the end of the year.

A Bank Hapoalim spokesman refused to either confirm or deny that negotiations are taking place. Shamrock's representative in Israel, Micha Geiger, is expected to return from the US tomorrow.

Three other groups, including a consortium headed by Ted Arison, are reportedly bidding for Ampal.

Arison is also a partner in the Claridge-Arison group - which is competing to purchase 20% of Bank Hapoalim.

Hapoalim announced plans to sell a portion of its holdings in the subsidiary two weeks ago.

The bank also announced plans to equalize the voting rights of Ampal.

Hapoalim owns 50.4% of Ampal's Class A stock and all of the company's outstanding common stock.

The common stock, which is not traded publicly, entitles Hapoalim to 50% of Ampal's voting rights, no matter how many Class A shares it owns.

The bank said it plans to equalize the voting rights of Ampal's common stock with those of Ampal class A shares.

As part of the proposal, the bank said it will seek compensation for the reduction in voting rights.

The Shamrock group is already invested here through its 22% holding in Koor Industries, which it acquired from Hevrat Haovdim last year.

Capital market sources forecast Shamrock, if it manages to acquire the company, may try to merge some of Ampal's activities - like its hotel and real estate holdings, with Koor's activities in the field.

Ampal's major investments include Ofir Holdings, which has a stake in Industrial Buildings, and some of Hamashbir Hamercazi's real estate assets.

Other investments include the Moriah Hotel chain, Teledata and tourism businesses.

Koor cannot directly purchase Ampal's shares, because the Brodet Committee also recommended forbidding the banks to sell their non-financial holdings to the country's four largest conglomerates.

A Koor spokesman refused to comment.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

Fibi Switzerland, First International Bank's subsidiary in Switzerland, has purchased a 100-year-old building in the center of Zurich for SFR 3.5 million.

The 100-sqm. building has three floors, and the bank hopes to complete renovations during the next six months and move to its new premises in September.

Galit Lipkis Beck

Bank Discount will establish a credit line of \$5 million to the State Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs of Turkmenistan, the bank announced yesterday.

The agreement, which will be valid for 5 1/2 years, was designed to help finance the establishment of a new division of a hospital in Ashkhabad, the capital of Turkmenistan. In the past two years, the bank has financed the export of medicines from Israel to the Moslem republic in the former Soviet Union. Despite its geographic and cultural proximity to Iran, Turkmenistan is cautiously nurturing open ties with Israel.

Jennifer Friedlin

Bezeq cutting prices on second phone lines: Bezeq wants everybody to have another phone line, and is cutting prices to encourage it. A marketing campaign, due to end on February 15, offers an additional phone line, including installation, for only NIS 295, instead of the full price of NIS 534.

Bezeq said the campaign allows any use for the additional phone line, including faxes and data transfer. The only condition is that the subscriber already have a phone line. The reduction in cost will be covered by Bezeq as part of its marketing budget.

There are currently 42 phone lines per 100 people; according to Bezeq director-general Yizhak Kaul, the company hopes this year to raise this to 50 per 100.

Judy Siegel

## Air India flights here hope to overfly Arabia

HAIM SHAPIRO

FLIGHTS between Israel and India will be overflying the Arabian peninsula within a year, said Air India deputy managing director M.P. Mascarenhas, who arrived here last week to welcome the Indian national airline's inaugural flight to Tel Aviv yesterday.

Mascarenhas said the flights were "long overdue" in view of the historical and other ties between the two countries. Not only are there 75,000 Israelis of Indian origin, but there are 12 million Indian Christians anxious to visit here, he said.

Air India is to operate two flights a week to Bombay, with 25 executive class and 181 economy-class seats on the Airbus A310 aircraft to be used for the flights.

Like El Al, which began flights to India in December 1993, Air India will circumnavigate the Arabian peninsula, resulting in a seven-and-a-half hour flight, about two hours longer than necessary.

Mascarenhas said Air India sent requests to several states in the peninsula to overfly their air space en route to Tel Aviv.

So far, he said, the airline had received no replies, but was hoping to receive positive ones within a year.

## Plan approved to rebuild section of railway to Erez

HAIM SHAPIRO

TRANSPORT Minister Yisrael Kessar yesterday approved a plan to rebuild a section of railway to the Erez checkpoint, which will establish a direct freight line from Ashdod Port to the Gaza Strip.

The section which must be rebuilt is an eight-kilometer stretch from Mavki'im, about five kilometers south of Ashkelon, to the Gaza Strip.

The cost is estimated at NIS 36 million, and the project is to be finished within a year.

According to Kessar, the establishment of the rail link will reduce the pressure on the Ashdod-Gaza highway and provide a more secure method of transferring goods.

The current freight load between the port and the Gaza Strip is about 1,000 tons a day, which can be transferred in two trains, he said.

Kessar did not reject the possibility of the train also being used to transport workers from Gaza into Israel.

Palestinian officials have long been debating the prospects for such a rail link, since while it may



Kessar: The rail line will reduce the pressure on the Ashdod-Gaza highway and provide a more secure method of transferring goods. (Brian Hendler)

hasten the establishment of industrial parks in the Gaza Strip, it might also deter foreign investors from supporting the construction of Gaza's own sea port.

Israeli officials have in the past expressed interest in gradually resurrecting the old rail link along the eastern Mediterranean coast, which during the British Mandate ran from Port Said to Beirut.

## Taldor Computers announces joint venture here with Tandem

RACHEL NEIMAN

SOFTWARE developer Taldor Computer Systems and US firm Tandem Computers Inc. will establish a joint venture here. The new company will conduct research and development, Taldor announced yesterday.

Taldor will be the majority shareholder with 51 percent of shares, while Tandem will own 49%.

The new company, which has yet to be given a name, will also

serve as the distributor and representative for Tandem products here.

Following approval by the boards of both companies, the new company is scheduled to begin activity on April 1.

Up until now Taldor subsidiary Eldor Computers represented Tandem here.

During the past 16 months,

Taldor purchased Eldor from Elbit (50%) and Poalim Investments (50%).

Tandem represents only a small part of Eldor's activities, Taldor CFO Eldad Ben-Moshe said yesterday, adding that the arrangement was satisfactory to all sides.

"We are very satisfied with this step, and from a strategic point of view it fits in with other planned activities of our group," he said.

## Galilee Tours plans seminar on travel to Syria

HAIM SHAPIRO

TOUR operators Galilee Tours plan to hold a seminar on Israeli tourism in Syria later this month.

"We want to be ready, and we believe that if [peace-era tourism] will come much faster than we expect," said Moshe Hananel, director of Galilee Tours, which is to hold the seminar at Beth Hatefutsot from February 18-21.

Hananel said the local travel industry knows very little about Syria, both as a nation and a travel destination.

He added that although many of the sites in Israel are connected by history with those in Syria, most Israelis have little idea

about the attractions there.

Among the scheduled lecturers at the seminar is Rabbi Avraham Hamra, former chief rabbi of Syria. The company is also bringing in a tour guide from abroad with experience in taking groups to Syria.

Dozens of people have already signed up for the course, the company said.

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Bids are invited for the supply of goods and services, required by government agencies located throughout Israel:

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Additional details can be obtained from 02-317428, 02-317418. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

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U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.525	4.520	4.375
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.525	4.520	4.375
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.875	4.875	4.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.875	1.750	2.000
Yen (10 million yen)	0.250	0.250	0.375

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

**Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (2.296)**

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Sell	Rep.
U.S. dollar	3.4987	3.5531	0.05	3.21	3.214	3.5314
German mark	2.1114	2.1616	0.05	2.16	2.160	2.1420
French franc	2.6902	2.7340	2.05	2.05	2.116	2.1106
Japanese yen (100)	4.7281	4.8044	4.64	4.68	4.7751	4.7751
Dutch florin	0.2088	0.2137	0.59	0.53	0.548	0.5448
Swiss franc	2.8125	2.8595	2.86	3.01	2.9410	2.9410
Australian dollar	1.8694	1.8968	1.83	1.83	1.8844	1.8844
Canadian dollar	2.5337	2.5940	2.50	2.54	2.5777	2.5777
Spanish peseta (100)	0.4480	0.4532	0.43	0.46	0.4694	0.4694
Scandinavian krona	0.4785	0.4833	0.47	0.50	0.4832	0.4832
Denmark krone	0.5423	0.5491	0.59	0.59	0.5458	0.5458
Finland mark	0.9818	0.9928	0.67	0.67	0.9783	0.9783
Portuguese escudo	2.2554	2.3020	2.22	2.24	2.2872	2.2872
Australian dollar	2.3455	2.3944	2.30	2.42	2.3655	2.3655
S. African rand	0.8323	0.8581	0.77	0.87	0.8338	0.8338
Belgian franc (10)	1.0768	1.0933	0.99	1.05	1.0288	1.0288
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9725	3.0235	2.92	3.07	3.0111	3.0111
Italian lire (1000)	1.9564	1.9982	1.83	2.03	1.9838	1.9838
Jordanian dinar	—	—	—	4.28	4.57	4.3887
Egyptian pound	—	—	—	0.28	0.26	0.2887
Irish punt	3.8458	3.9077	3.79	3.83	3.8930	3.8930
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4580	2.5281	2.44	2.53	2.5066	2.5066

\* These rates vary according to bank. \*\* Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

**Ports & Railways Authority**

**Head Office**

**Tender No. 9999/96**

**Cranes for Sale**

1. The Ports and Railways Authority - Israel (hereinafter "The P.R.A."), offers the following used Container Crane in the ports of Haifa & Ashdod for sale:

No.	Description	Qty.	Make	Year	Capacity U/Spreeder	Gauge Span	Availability
1.1	Transstainer (RTG)	5	Paccoco	72-77	30 TON	76 ft	Immediately
1.2	Gantry Crane	1	Boomeche	73	35 TON	16M	Immediately
1.3	Transstainer (RMG)	1	Paccoco	75	35 TON	43M	Aug. 1996

2. All cranes will be sold in an "As is" condition.

3. The removal of the cranes from the port of Haifa and/or Ashdod will be done in a limited schedule and in coordination with the PRA with minimum interference to port operations and at the bidder's expense.

4. Proposals may be submitted for one or more of the above listed cranes. Proposals must be submitted for each crane separately. A bid bond in the value of 5% of proposal, for all cranes proposed, not including V.A.T. to be attached to the proposal. The bond will be in force for 90 days after the submission date.

5. Tender documents are available upon payment of 3,510 NIS (including V.A.T.) not refundable, at the address hereinafter:

The Ports and Railways Authority - Head Office, Purchasing Division,  
74 Petach Tikva Road, 11th Floor, Room 1103, Tel-Aviv 61201, Israel. Tel: 972-3-5657064, Fax: 972-3-5615027

A technical inspection of the cranes can be done after purchasing the tender documents.

6. Proposals must be submitted no later than March 31, 1996, at the address above.

7. The P.R.A. is not obligated to accept the most expensive proposal or any other proposal.

8. The P.R.A. reserves the right to conduct negotiations with those bidders that were found to be suitable.

9. The P.R.A. reserves the right to reach agreements with more than one bidder, and/or not to sell all cranes.

DRIVE CAREFULLY



Iraqi dinar firms on hopes oil deal in works soon

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Iraq's central bank has set a higher conversion rate for the dinar currency to reflect growing optimism in Baghdad that Iraq will soon be able to sell oil again on world markets.

Banking sources in Baghdad said over the weekend that the dinar was set at 500 from 700 to the dollar in the third revaluation in a week.

Money changers were offering an even higher rate for the Iraqi currency, quoting it at 460 to the dollar.

The dinar, which has fallen steadily since the United Nations imposed sanctions in 1990, jumped in value last month on news Iraq may agree to a deal with the UN to sell limited amounts of oil to buy humanitarian supplies.

The dinar was trading at 3,000 to the dollar before news of the oil talks, which start this week in New York.

The rise in the dinar has slashed shop prices in Iraq as dollar-denominated imports have become cheaper to buy.

Traders said essential items like sugar, rice, eggs and flour were costing at least 75 percent less than they did three weeks ago.

Iraq's government-controlled press talks of a "shining sun rising again," a reference to an end to the hardship caused by the UN embargo imposed after Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

The newspapers are claiming victory over the UN embargo and heaping praise on President Saddam Hussein for bringing "the greatest happiness" to the Iraqi people.

"Here you are compensating your people with ample joy by dismantling the chains of the embargo," declared Babel newspaper, owned by Saddam's eldest son Uday.

Preachers in Baghdad drove the same message home in their sermons on Friday.

Addressing packed mosques in the capital, their speeches were full of thanks and praise for Saddam for beating the embargo.

There has been no word from any senior Iraqi official, however, that Baghdad would accept any of the terms the UN will demand as a prelude to a resumption of oil sales.

But this has not deterred Iraqis from selling their dollars and going on a shopping binge.

State bank employees, forced to work late into the night to cope with the surge in business, spoke of millions of dollars being exchanged by Iraqis for their own currency.

Iraqi farmers have taken to the streets in their pickup trucks, offering vegetables and fruit from the good harvest on the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates at the lowest prices since the start of the UN embargo.

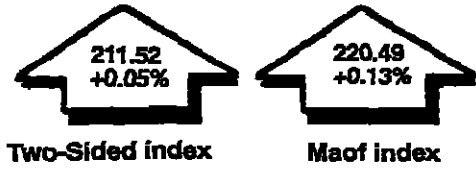
Meanwhile, an independent Kuwaiti economic consultancy said OPEC's reluctance to devise a policy to cope with a possible return by Iraq to world oil markets will hit oil prices.

"As usual, OPEC will await an agreement [to be reached between Iraq and the UN] to meet and deal with it," al-Shall economic consultancy said in a weekly review.

Indexes register little change

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



STOCKS were little changed yesterday as investors assessed the possibility that the government might move up the elections to May.

The corporate earnings season also is approaching and analysts expect generally good numbers, particularly from exporters benefiting from the devaluation of the shekel in the past six weeks.

"The prospect of early elections is positive for the stock market for a number of reasons," said David Rosenberg, head of research at Pacific Mediterranean Securities.

The most active share was Shekem, which gained 4.5 percent on NIS 2.16 million of shares traded.

The Two-sided Index added 0.05% at 211.52 and the Maof Index added 0.13% to 220.49. More than NIS 84m. of shares traded, 19% below January's average of NIS 104.9m.

Advancing and declining issues were about even.

Labor is leading in voter surveys, and the later the election "the more time for the Likud to close in on the polls," Rosenberg said. As things stand, Prime Minister Shimon Peres could win another term without a runoff, he said.

The government is also a known quantity for business, Rosenberg said. The economic policies of the Likud and Labor are

"theoretically not hard to distinguish," he said. In the last Likud-led government, the party "had more or less the same policies, but it was a disaster in implementation," Rosenberg said.

With Peres and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat "you know what you are getting, which is pretty much good."

He also noted that Central Bank Governor Jacob Frenkel's term ends in July. "If it's a tough election" for Labor, "it might be sacrificed on the altar of loose money," Rosenberg said. Frenkel had focused on fighting inflation.

"For those who appreciate the Bank of Israel's policies, and what the market as a whole does, they would like to see a situation where his term is renewed."

As for corporate profits, preliminary numbers show they'll be very good, although not across the board, the analyst said. "Certainly for the export sector" numbers will be strong because of the devaluation, he said.

However, the real estate industry "will be a little problematic because of higher rates," Rosenberg said.

Frenkel shocked the market last week by lifting the rate at which it lends to banks 0.3 percentage point to 14%. Most investors and traders had expected no change. (Bloomberg)

Gold futures pushed higher COMMODITIES ROUNDUP

ANOTHER solid day of bullish trading pushed gold futures substantially higher on Friday, despite periodic bouts of afternoon profit-taking.

Whether or not the market can pierce the monthly high of \$425 before large-scale profit-taking sets in is the more important long-term question in this bull-market, analysts explained.

Analysts differ on whether or not the market has climbed too far too fast, or if it has been a steady and patient climb.

The higher the market goes, the more it becomes susceptible to selloffs, they noted.

Physical demand has fallen sharply in many of the emerging market countries - including India and the Middle East.

Other analysts see the recent climb in gold prices as comparatively slow, given that the real break from the \$380 to \$390 range began in late November. At the close, the April gold contract ended up \$4.00 an ounce to close at \$417.00 - that is a gain of \$27.60 since the beginning of this year.

Silver futures were decidedly less bullish than gold futures, despite another significant drawdown in COMEX silver stocks.

The debate continues to rage over whether silver's temporary supply drawdowns are a reflection of demand or a shifting from COMEX warehouses to other locations which are not required to report daily volumes.

The March silver contract closed up 4.5 cents at \$5.94 per ounce. April platinum prices were \$4.10 higher, at \$434.00 and March palladium prices were \$4.45 higher at \$140.25.

A moderate stock increase at the London Metal Exchange (LME) warehouses on Friday helped to keep COMEX copper prices in a mostly neutral posture before the weekend.

An interest rate cut of 0.25 percentage points by the Federal Reserve, which ultimately affects two major copper-consuming industries, housing and automobile, was in line with market forecasts, but failed to provide enough energy to keep all the long positions in the market this week, a copper trader said.

At the close, March copper prices were unchanged at \$1.740.

Corn futures were again boosted to a higher Friday close as a result in a jump in wheat prices, with rumors of a Russian purchase and cold weather threatening the US winter wheat crop being the main motivating factors, sources said.

The March corn futures contract closed up 1/4 at \$3.66 1/4 per bushel. March wheat closed up 9.0 cents a bushel at \$5.26 1/4.

Soybeans closed lower on Friday on reports of sagging basis values and signs of hedging interest in new crop in Brazil, sources said. The March contract closed down 1/4 at \$1.39 1/4 per bushel.

Trading in cotton futures on Friday ended narrowly mixed in dull trade, with the most active March contract falling 0.40 cents on speculative selling, to settle at \$5.60 cents a pound.

Industry-related buying boosted CSCB world sugar prices on Friday, with the March contract gaining 0.11 cents a pound to close at 12.04 cents.

Coffee futures settled lower after a very choppy session, that featured options-related speculator activity, traders said. The March contract settled 265 points lower at \$1.2375.

Cocoa futures settled higher on Friday on speculative buying, traders said. The March cocoa futures contract settled \$8 higher at \$1.268.

Courtesy of Michael Zwebner, ComStock Trading Ltd.

Mercedes boss pledges to regain lost market share

DAVOS, Switzerland, Feb 3 (Reuters) - Helmut Werner, chairman of Mercedes-Benz AG, said Mercedes would soon recapture market share lost in Germany last year because of the introduction of its new E-class model.

"Phasing out and phasing in costs market share," Werner told journalists at the World Economic Forum's 1996 annual meeting.

"We plan to sell more than 600,000 cars worldwide during 1996 so therefore we will catch back up." The Federal Motor Office said Mercedes market share in Germany, measured by registrations, declined to 7.6 percent in 1995 from 8.1% in 1994.

"We know from our analysis and present order patterns that we can expect to grow over 1995 in E-class sales," Werner said.

The E-class was launched last July. BMW's new five series, launched in December, was helping to increase interest in this segment of the market, Werner said.

"Traditionally the competition with BMW fuels our business and at the end of the day... it supports the interest for that car segment," Werner said, adding: "I expect good competition." Mercedes is bringing out a two-seat roadster, the SLK, this year, in the small sports car market that looks crowded with new entries from BMW and Porsche.

"But the first year, the first two years are not significant," Werner said.

"It's going to be a very attractive vehicle that's going to be offered at a very attractive price and I am very optimistic."

Werner said he welcomed the changes at the parent company, Daimler-Benz, which last month announced it was cutting off financial support to troubled Dutch plane maker Fokker and also said it would merge with the remainder of its old consumer product unit AEG.

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Automakers meet to discuss market in eastern Europe

WARSAW (Reuters) - Major car makers and their parts suppliers open a two-day conference in Warsaw today to discuss strategies for boosting sales and expanding production in the fast-growing markets of central and eastern Europe.

With car-hungry consumers and inexpensive and skilled workers, the region has attracted a \$4 billion in manufacturing projects since the end of Communism from Daewoo Group, Fiat Group, General Motors, Renault SA and Volkswagen AG.

Top executives from each company will talk about experiences in the region, focusing on investment opportunities, labor relations, the political climate, product quality and risk.

"I'm interested in hearing from automakers and suppliers that have invested in the region - the lessons they've learned and the hurdles they've had to overcome," conference participant Louis Bailoni, an automotive

consultant at, said by telephone from his office in London.

Many analysts forecast annual growth in car sales to average nearly 10 percent to 2000 in central and eastern Europe. Car ownership there remains low compared to western Europe.

But car markets in the old East bloc still need time to mature. Options to finance car purchases remain limited, while duties and taxes often inflate prices beyond the means of most car buyers.

In Hungary, a Mercedes-Benz S600 coupe costs roughly \$60,000, nearly triple the price in Germany.

Nevertheless, seasoned auto executives said the car business in central and eastern Europe had developed rapidly since the Berlin Wall fell.

"I remember working from hotel rooms in Budapest and Prague in the fall of 1990 to launch our operations in the region," Mohammed Razaq, sales director for General Motors (Europe), said.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Table with columns for Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading, AFTERNOON, and MORNING. Lists various stocks and their prices and volume.

Asian currencies set to rise on low US interest rates

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Asian regional currencies, particularly the Indonesian rupiah and Thai baht, are set to appreciate as investors look East for higher yields following last week's US interest rate cut, economists and foreign exchange traders said over the weekend.

The baht, rupiah and Malaysian ringgit rose late last week after the Federal Reserve lowered its funds and discount rates by 25 basis points to 5.25 percent and 5.0% respectively.

While higher rates in all three Asian countries are attracting investors put off by the current bias for credit easing in Europe and the US, Thailand and Indonesia hold the greatest appeal, said Sim Moh Siong, regional economist at financial consulting firm IDEA over the weekend.

Sim said the differential between Indonesian and US three-month interbank rates was about 10%, while investors in Thailand could hope for a 4% yield.

"Rates will have to remain high in these countries mainly because they are experiencing overheating problems, as is quite evident from their inflation figures," Sim said.

Thailand's Commerce Ministry reported last week that the rate of inflation for January was unchanged from December at 7.4%, which went against analysts' expectations of 6.6%-6.8%.

Dominique Maire, senior economist at Union Bank of Switzerland in Singapore, also said that Indonesian and Thai authorities would maintain a tight monetary policy in the face of large current account deficits and rising inflation.

"The Indonesians are strongly committed to stability and avoiding interest rate shock therapy," he said, adding that the central bank was also opposed to a stepwise devaluation of the currency.

However, he added that continued strong inflows of funds would exert pressure on Indonesian and Thai interest rates.

He said the bullish performance of Wall Street stocks coupled with the implicit risks of investing in emerging markets could keep fund managers confined to Western shores.

Noting that Asian regional currencies had already seen strong inflows of funds over the last couple of months, he said investors should be increasingly cautious.

The Israel Telecommunications Corp. Ltd.

Bids are invited for the supply of the following goods: Tender 62/95/022/0 for Feature Telephones - Framework Agreement

- The following general conditions apply: 1. Pre-conditions: a. Parties submitting bids must comply with all laws... b. Willingness to provide a guarantee... c. Compliance with the "minimum" conditions... 2. The tender documents can be obtained from the Tenders and Ordering Department... 3. Bids should be placed in the tenders box at 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem... 4. No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid...





# Late-game rally rescues Maccabi Tel Aviv

**HAPOEL** Gvat almost pulled off the unfathomable, before succumbing to the league champions, Hapoel Jerusalem and Galil proved its mettle, while Herzliya breathed a sigh of relief, and Eilat continued its season of discontent.

**Mac. TA 88, Hap. Gvat 79**

In an unbelievable game that almost provided the upset of the year, Maccabi Tel Aviv came back and prevailed in the last two and a half minutes to escape with the victory. The kibbutznikim, currently mired in last place and facing almost certain relegation to the Second Division next year came into Yael Elyahu without the services of their two best players, Derrick Gervin and Stevie Thompson.

Gvat coach Zvi Horvitz, aware that his team's personnel was not as talented as the Maccabi bench, decided to counter by playing a 2-1-2 zone, forcing Maccabi to shoot outside jumpers. Maccabi was unable to open a substantial lead, as Gvat youngsters Guy Zano, Gili Schwartzman and Sharon Avrahami refused to roll over and die. With the score tied at 56, Gvat's Costa Gorman nailed a three pointer giving Gvat a remarkable three point lead with less than 10 minutes remaining. The game remained tight as Maccabi clung to a 78-76 lead with 2:50 to play.

Experience proved to be the difference as Tom Chambers (21 points) and Nadav Henefeld (16) came through with clutch play down the

stretch. For Gvat, Schwartzman and Avrahami had 18 and 17 points, respectively.

**Galil Elyon 79, Hap. Holon 74**

Galil Elyon overcame a 13 point deficit to return from Holon victorious. The northerners used a lot of character, defense and Andrew Kennedy to prevail.

The game was close throughout the first 15 minutes until Holon, helped by a David Blatt technical foul, pulled out to a 43-34 halftime lead.

The second half was a different story, as Kennedy scored 22 of his 35 points, to go along with his 11 rebounds and turn the game around. Oren Amiel also came through with an important basket with :19 remaining, providing Galil with a 77-72 lead, and helping to stave off a late Holon rally.

Derrick Hamilton paced Holon with 24 points.

**Bnei Herzliya 78, Mac. R. Gan 69**

"When in doubt, go to Amir Katz" seemed to be the credo for Muli Katzurim last night, as the league's hottest shooter proved to be the difference.

Katz, due to his recent injury, started the game on the bench, but when Robert Rose and David Brooks jumped started Ramat-Gan to a 26-21 lead, Katzurim called on his rifle-man from the bench.

Katz delivered, scoring 23 points over the game's last 27 minutes, as

Herzliya maintained its hold on third place.

**Hap. Jerusalem 95, Hap. Safed 80**

The game was supposed to be a test for Hapoel Jerusalem. They passed with flying colors, as Pinny Gershon's club came prepared, dictated the pace of the game and came away with the difficult road victory.

Jerusalem used Jose de penetration by guards Papi Turgeeman and Adi Gordon which set up a lot of free throws, lay-ups and open jumpers en route to frustrating the local favorites. Turgeeman poured in 23 while Norris Coleman and Billy Thompson had 20 each. Melvin Neubern scored 28 for Safed.

**Mac. Jerusalem 85, Hap. Eilat 74**

Maccabi Jerusalem's regular roster showed up this week and Joe Dawson played his best game of the season as the Jerusalemites crept into a seventh place tie in the standings. Eilat didn't look good in Ralph Klein's coaching debut, as they sealed for outside shoot for most of the game.

Team	W	L	Pct
Hapoel Jerusalem	12	1	.923
Maccabi Tel Aviv	12	1	.923
Hapoel Galil Elyon	9	4	.692
Bnei Herzliya	9	4	.692
Maccabi Pithon	7	6	.538
Hapoel Safed	7	6	.538
Hapoel Holon	5	8	.385
Hapoel Eilat	4	9	.308
Maccabi Jerusalem	4	9	.308
Hapoel Tel Aviv	3	9	.250
Hapoel Gvat	2	11	.154
Maccabi Ramat Gan	2	11	.154

# Mourning shines but Heat falter

**MIAMI (AP)** - Dana Barros rattled in a 17-foot jumper with 0.8 seconds left, giving the Boston Celtics a 100-99 victory over the Miami Heat on Saturday night despite a career-high 45 points from Alonzo Mourning.

The Celtics snapped a four-game road losing streak and beat Miami for the third time this season. Boston is 6-1 against the Heat in the last two seasons.

Rookie Eric Williams scored 18 points and Boston's Kevin McCallister had a career-high 21 rebounds for Miami, but he sat out the entire fourth quarter.

On the game-winning play, Barros, guarded tightly by Bimbo Coles, worked the shot clock down and drove just inside the 3-point circle before stopping and shooting. The ball went in and out, then caromed off the backboard and back in. Rex Chapman, who scored 17 points, missed a desperation 35-foot shot at the buzzer.

**SuperSonics 104, Rockets 103 (OT)**

Gary Payton had 32 points and his 3-pointer with 7.6 seconds left in overtime sealed the win for visiting Seattle, their sixth victory in a row over the Rockets.

The Sonics, whose 33-12 record is the best in the Western Conference, trailed by at least 10 for most of the game, but finally took the lead with 3:45 to go in the fourth quarter when Hersey Hawkins - one of six Sonics in double figures with 22 points - hit a pair of free throws after Sam Cassell fouled out.

The score was tied three times in the final five minutes and neither team was able to go ahead by more than three points.

With the score 92-92, Mark Bryant's layup attempt rolled out with 36 seconds to go. Detlef Schrempf then missed a 3-pointer for Seattle with 17.7 seconds left, and Clyde Drexler missed a 3-pointer as the clock was expiring in the fourth quarter.

The Sonics, winning for the 19th time in their last 22 games, took charge in the extra period with Payton hitting the first and last baskets.

**Trail Blazers 96, 76ers 85**

Rod Strickland scored 18 points and Portland's reserves had 46 points as the visiting Trail Blazers snapped their three-game losing streak.

The Blazers bounced back from a 16-point loss at Washington the night before when they began a four-game road trip. Gary Trent and James Robinson came off the bench to score 17 points each and Arvydas Sabonis had 10 points.

Vernon Maxwell had 20 points for Philadelphia, which lost for the 10th time in 11 games.

**Kings 94, Pistons 85**

Mich Richmond had 11 of his 34 points in the fourth quarter and Sacramento began a four-game road trip with a victory over Detroit.

It was a rare road win for the Kings and a rare home loss for the Pistons. Sacramento had lost nine of its last 11 road games, and Detroit had won six of seven at home. The Kings have won only two of their last 10 games on



UP AND IN - Detroit's Theo Ratliff goes for the basket en route to a 94-85 loss to Sacramento on Saturday night.

EASTERN CONFERENCE				WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division		GB		Midwest Division		Pac. Division		
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	32	13	.711	-	Sao Antonio	28	13	.680
New York	28	15	.651	3	Utah	30	14	.682
Washington	22	21	.512	9	Houston	30	17	.638
Miami	20	22	.476	12 1/2	Denver	18	25	.419
New Jersey	16	26	.380	16 1/2	Celtics	15	28	.341
Boston	17	25	.378	15	Minnesota	11	31	.259
Philadelphia	8	36	.182	23 1/2	Vancouver	10	35	.222
<b>Central Division</b>				<b>Pacific Division</b>				
Chicago	41	3	.932	-	Seattle	33	12	.733
Indiana	30	15	.667	11 1/2	Sacramento	24	17	.585
Cleveland	29	20	.596	16 1/2	L.A. Lakers	25	19	.568
Atlanta	24	20	.545	17	Portland	22	22	.476
Detroit	22	21	.512	18 1/2	Phoenix	19	24	.442
Charlotte	21	22	.488	19 1/2	Golden State	19	25	.432
Milwaukee	16	27	.372	24 1/2	L.A. Clippers	16	29	.356
Toronto	13	32	.289	28 1/2				

# Connecticut sinks St. John's

**NEW YORK (AP)** - Ray Allen scored 29 points and Doron Sheffer added 17 as the fourth-ranked Huskies won their 20th consecutive game, a 77-63 victory over St. John's at Madison Square Garden on Saturday night.

Apparently there haven't been a whole lot of problems with the Huskies (21-1, 11-0 Big East) making positive plays.

They haven't lost since an overtime defeat to Iowa in the semifinals of the season-opening Great Alaska Shootout. Their winning streak matches top-ranked UMass (20-0) for the longest current streak in the country.

The latest win certainly wasn't

the prettiest of the streak, but it kept Connecticut perfect in the Big East. The Huskies have been in first place in the conference every day of the last 2 1/2 seasons and are a remarkable 43-4 in league play in that period.

St. John's (8-10, 2-8) lost for the fifth time in six games and have dropped seven straight to the Huskies.

St. John's was within 10 at 67-57 with 2:56 left on two free throws by Lopez, but Allen, who averages 23.3 points, came right back with a 3-pointer 19 seconds later.

Allen finished 6-of-9 from 3-point range and Sheffer was 3-of-8. St. John's made only three of 16

attempts from behind the arc.

**SATURDAY'S TOP 25 RESULTS:**  
 No. 2 Kentucky 77, Florida 63; No. 4 Connecticut 77, St. John's 63; No. 6 Villanova 88, Pittsburgh 55; No. 7 Utah 74, New Mexico 58; North Carolina State 78, No. 8 North Carolina 75; No. 9 Georgetown 70, Notre Dame 53; No. 10 Penn State 95, No. 16 Iowa 87 (OT); Louisville 74, No. 11 Memphis 56; No. 13 Virginia Tech 72, Rhode Island 66 (OT); No. 14 Arizona 96, Washington State 78; No. 15 Texas Tech 79, Rice 57; No. 17 Purdue 56, Michigan State 51; No. 19 UCLA 69, Oregon State 60; No. 20 Michigan 77, Ohio State 58; No. 21 Boston College 84, West Virginia 63; No. 23 Eastern Michigan 62, Akron 53; Duke 83, No. 24 Clemson 53; Maryland 88; No. 25 Georgia Tech 74.

# Kadosh leaves Betar Tel Aviv

**MICHAEL "Lupa" Kadosh** became the eighth National League coaching casualty of the season yesterday when his employment at Betar Tel Aviv was terminated after less than a year in charge.

Kadosh offered his resignation to club chairman Benzi Moradov on Saturday night following the club's 6-1 home drubbing by Bnei Yehuda, a loss which sent them to the bottom of the league.

Yesterday, Moradov reluctantly

agreed to terminate Kadosh's employment in the hope that a change will bring an improvement in fortunes.

Kadosh will be replaced by Dov Remmer, a former player at Hapoel Tel Aviv and until yesterday coach of Second-Division Hapoel Ashdod.

Moradov hopes the new coach will achieve what Kadosh did last

season - make sure that the small Tel Aviv club does not get relegated from the National League.

In other news, Zafirim Holon manager Mordechai Spiegler is not yet leaving his club, although he may soon follow Kadosh if the club's fortunes do not improve.

Holon lost 1-0 to lowly Maccabi Jaffa on Friday and are level on points with Betar Tel Aviv, with only goal difference keeping them off the bottom of the standings.

# Bruck sets another swimming record

**HEATHER CHAIT**

THE Israeli swimming success story continued yesterday in the World Cup tournament in Paris, with Yoav Bruck setting another national record in the 50 meter freestyle. Swimming in the short-course pool, Bruck sliced 30-hundredths of a second off his own record set last week in Sweden with a time of 22.30 seconds. This earned him the bronze medal.

In the morning's preliminary round, Bruck registered a time of 22.58 seconds, at the time, also a new record. Today, Bruck is traveling to Italy while the rest of the team is going to Germany.

Mickey Halika reached the finals of the 200 meter individual medley, where he finished in sixth place with a time of 2:04.88 - a personal record.

Eitan Urbach came in fifth in the 200 meters backstroke with a time of 1:58.93.

Kutler failed to reach the final of the 100 meter butterfly clocking 56.46 seconds in the preliminary round.

On Saturday, Dan Kutler's time of 24.71 seconds in the 50 meter butterfly earned him the silver medal, while Halika notched up a new national record in the 400 meter individual medley. He finished fourth in the final with a time of 4:19.69, knocking the 39 hundredths off his previous record set last year.

when, put through brilliantly by Spencer, he slipped the ball past hesitant Boro goalkeeper Gary Walsh into the net.

Middlesbrough, again without its injured Brazilian midfielder Juninho, have lost their last six league games.

Chelsea, gaining in confidence in the passing game instilled in them by manager Glenn Hoddle, repeatedly beat Middlesbrough's offside trap with intelligent running and precise through balls.

Goalkeeper Kevin Hitchcock tipped a dipping shot from Boro's Norway international Jan-Aage Fjortoft over the bar in the first half and Paul Wilkinson's 20-meter shot in the dying minutes hit the far post.

# Chelsea crushes Middlesbrough

**LONDON (Reuters)** - Striker Gavin Peacock hit a hat-trick as Chelsea, inspired by Dutch ace Ruud Gullit, crushed Middlesbrough 5-0 in the English Premier League yesterday.

The victory lifted the London club, now unbeaten in eight games in all competitions and only once in its last 15, to eighth in the league table.

Peacock, playing only because veteran striker Mark Hughes is injured, put Chelsea ahead in the 29th minute and, after Scottish international John Spencer's strike two minutes later, scored his second in the 38th after a run by Gullit.

Striker Paul Furlong put the finishing touch to an excellent fourth goal in the 52nd minute following a superb 60-metre cross field ball from Gullit met by Romania's Dan Petrescu, who put in a telling square pass.

Peacock, who had scored only twice before this season, completed his hat-trick three minutes later

YESTERDAY'S SOCCER RESULTS:  
 Premier League:  
 Chelsea 5, Middlesbrough 0  
 Division One:  
 Charlton 0, Crystal Palace 0; Norwich 1, Birmingham 1; Port Vale 0, Stoke (ppd.); Reading 0, Portsmouth 1

**SATURDAY'S NHL RESULTS**  
 Detroit 3, Pittsburgh 0; Philadelphia 7, St. Louis 3; Colorado 7, N.Y. Rangers 1; Chicago 4, San Jose 1; Florida 5, Tampa Bay 3; Boston 4, Buffalo 2; New Jersey 3, Ottawa 2 (OT); Washington 6, N.Y. Islanders 5 (OT); Montreal 4, Toronto 1; Calgary 2, Los Angeles 1.

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